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COUNTY BOROUGH OF WIGAN

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*Annual Report*  
*on the*  
*Health*  
*of the*  
*County Borough of Wigan*  
*1961*



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on the  
*Health*  
of the  
*County Borough of Wigan*  
1961

J. HAWORTH HILDITCH, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H., (Vict.), F.R.S.H.

Medical Officer of Health.

Principal School Medical Officer.

Medical Referee of the Borough Crematorium.



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## HEALTH COMMITTEE, 1961 (Appointed 24th May, 1961)

Chairman	....	....	Councillor J. T. LYNCH, J.P.	
Vice-Chairman	....	....	Councillor J. BOWDEN	
The Mayor	.....	.....	Alderman T. COBLEY, J.P.	
Alderman	....	....	H. DOWLING, J.P.	
Councillors	....	....	F. CONNOLLY	P. DONNELLY
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			A. J. LOWE, J.P.	T. MONKS
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			J. RANKIN	S. SHERRATT
			J. TABERNER	
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			MRS. B. G. HOUGHTON	MRS. C. RAYNOR, J.P.
			Councillor S. TAYLOR	

### STAFF, 1961

Medical Officer of Health	....	J. HAWORTH HILDITCH, M.B., Ch.B. D.P.H. (Vict.) F.R.S.H.
Deputy Medical Officer of Health	....	*A. SIPPERT, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H. (from 1.8.61).
Assistant Medical Officers		I. M. SMITH, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H. (to 31.7.61).
		*R. McLEAN BAIN, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.
		*T. L. O'DONNELL, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H. (from 1.8.61).
Dental Officer	....	*C. F. L. PURSLOW, L.D.S., R.C.S., Eng.
Consultant Obstetric Surgeon		*R. L. HARTLEY, M.D., F.R.C.O.G., F.R.C.S. (E.)
Chest Physician	....	*E. H. W. DEANE, M.B., B.S.
Consultant Venereologist	....	*PHILIP S. SILVER, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.
Orthopaedic Surgeon	....	*MISS M. F. JOHNSTONE, M.B., Ch.B.
Ophthalmic Surgeon	....	*V. T. Lees, M.B., Ch.B., D.O.M.S.

Public Analyst .... \*J. GRAHAM SHERRATT, B.Sc., F.R.I.C.

Chief Public Health Inspector J. B. MARSH (*a*) (*b*) (*h*)

Deputy Chief Public Health  
Inspector .... P. STRAFFORD (*a*) (*b*) (*h*)

Public Health Inspectors .... E. ASPIN (*a*) (*b*) (from 2.1.61).

E. HARRIS (*a*) (*b*) (*h*)

C. JACKSON (*a*) (*b*)

M. H. JAGASIA (*a*) (*b*)

L. J. JONES (*a*) (*b*)

E. MARSDEN (*a*) (*b*) (*h*)

K. PARKIN (*a*) (*b*)

F. REYNOLDS (*a*) (*b*) (*h*) (from 1.2.61).

Senior Health Visitor .... E. M. WRIGHT (*c*) (*d*) (*e*) (*g*)

Health Visitors .... \*B. J. HIGGINS (*c*) (*d*) (*e*) (from 27.11.61).

K. HUXLEY (*c*) (*d*) (*e*) (from 20.12.61).

C. JACKSON (*c*) (*d*) (*e*) (*g*)

C. V. KILCULLEN (*d*) (*e*)

P. M. KING (*c*) (*d*) (*e*) (to 31.7.61).

M. E. MILLS (*c*) (*d*) (*e*)

I. PATERSON (*c*) (*d*) (*e*) (to 31.10.61).

Z. M. VERNON (*c*) (*d*) (*e*) (*f*) (*g*)

M. J. WALMESLEY (*c*) (*d*) (*e*)

J. WHALLEY (*c*) (*d*) (*e*) (to 30.6.61).

Tuberculosis Visitor .... E. CODY (*c*) (*d*)

Supervisor of Midwives .... W. KAY (*c*) (*d*)

Midwives :

E. V. BROWN ( <i>c</i> ) ( <i>d</i> ) (from 6.11.61).	M. K. PATEL ( <i>c</i> ) ( <i>d</i> ) (to 24.12.61).
M. C. DIX ( <i>c</i> ) ( <i>d</i> )	M. QUINN ( <i>c</i> ) ( <i>d</i> )
F. O'DWYER ( <i>c</i> ) ( <i>d</i> )	E. S. ROGERS ( <i>c</i> ) (to 17.11.61).
R. M. HALLIWELL ( <i>c</i> ) ( <i>d</i> )	C. RYDER ( <i>c</i> ) ( <i>d</i> )
D. HITCHEN ( <i>c</i> ) ( <i>d</i> )	P. WAITE ( <i>c</i> ) ( <i>d</i> )
M. P. HURST ( <i>c</i> ) ( <i>d</i> )	M. WOODWARD ( <i>c</i> )

Ellesmere Road Nursery Matron .... M. F. LUCAS (*d*) (*f*)

Home Nursing Superintendent .... L. MAHER (*c*) (*d*) (*g*)

Hope School Supervisor .... J. HANSON

Marylebone Centre Senior Craft  
Instructor .... E. HILTON

Lay Administrative Officer .... G. CREE, D.M.A.

Mental Health Service :

Senior Mental Welfare Officer .... J. A. PIETRE, B.A.

Mental Welfare Officers .... A. KENNEDY (to 30.4.61).

E. KIRKWOOD (to 31.10.61).

E. J. LONG, B.A. (comm. 12.6.61).

M. O'DONNELL

Welfare Services :

Senior Assistant .... A. SIMM

Ambulance Service :

Ambulance Superintendent .... T. A. ATHERTON, B.E.M.

\* Part-Time Officers.

(a) Public Health Inspectors Certificate.

(b) Meat Inspectors Certificate.

(c) Certificate, Central Midwives Board.

(d) General Trained.

(e) Health Visitors Certificate.

(f) Registered Fever Nurse.

(g) Queen's Nurse.

(h) Smoke Inspectors Certificate



## INTRODUCTION

*To the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors of the County Borough of Wigan.*

“ The town lies open to the southerly breeze. It is screened on the north and east by the distant heights of Anglezarke and Rivington and nearer by the ridge of Haigh thickly crested with trees.

Excepting always Lancaster no town in this great county can boast a finer position or one more naturally healthy.”

*Report to the General Board of Health, 1849.*

With these words George Thomas Clark, special inspector of the General Board of Health, prefaced his Report on the Sanitary Circumstances of Wigan in the middle of the 19th Century. He went on to show how the health of the inhabitants of the Borough was adversely affected by the dreadfully insanitary conditions brought about through lack of proper water supply, drainage, and inadequate housing. Such was the legacy of the Industrial Revolution and the tasks for reform which it brought in its train are even now far from complete. It is possible in the future that we may regain the environment which was once the envy of almost the whole of Lancashire. Much has been done in the intervening years and the problems of water supply and sewage disposal are largely solved. Housing has proved more difficult to handle and the means of putting an end to the unfit property in the Borough are only just in sight. A great deal of the work of the Department during the past twelve months has been devoted to a speed-up in the elimination of unsatisfactory property. Even now the standards required are modest and we must look forward to the time when every house in the Borough has its own W.C. and bathroom inside the building.

It is not possible in a few paragraphs of introduction to draw attention to the triumphs, aspirations or shortcomings of each section of the Department but it is perhaps useful to indicate points of special interest or significance. In this respect the statistical section offers scope for special comment.

The birth rate 15.71 although somewhat lower than in the previous year (16.52) continues its general upward trend and in common with other communities it would appear that we are on the upward rise of a “ bulge ” similar to that which occurred in the immediate post war years. This is understandable for the earlier age of marriage is bringing the females of the previous “ bulge ” to the position of starting families of their own. As there are plenty of males to go round there is every indication that there will be few “ involuntary ” spinsters. We can expect a steady increase in the birth rate for five to eight years and must plan our services accordingly. The number of illegitimate births has shown a steady increase over the past three or four years and although we are well below the average rate for towns of comparable size its continuation would indicate a fall in moral values which is to be deprecated.

Although too much emphasis must not be placed on the figures for a single year it is most gratifying to note that the infantile mortality rate has taken a spectacular fall to the record low level of 21.77 which for the first time almost approximates to the rate for England and Wales at 21.4. It is very unlikely that the figures for next year will match these but a perusal of the graph on page 26 indicates that the downward trend continues.

It has always been held that the infantile mortality rate was perhaps the most sensitive index of the overall environmental conditions of an area particularly is it said to indicate the adequacy of the housing provision. Whilst admitting that housing is a factor of the greatest importance it must not be forgotten that a considerable proportion, 78% of the infant deaths are associated with prematurity and malformation. Whilst we are not yet ready to pronounce definitely on the actual causes of these conditions there is no doubt that the environment and well being of the mother in the first two or three months of pregnancy plays a major part. In the present state of our knowledge no effort should be spared to shield the expectant mother from virus infection and from needless ingestion of new and exotic drugs during this critical period.

The record low neo-natal mortality rate 14.52 (23.93) and the fact that there was no maternal death pays tribute to the high standard of midwifery both as to ante natal care and to delivery as practiced in the area.

The table on page 27 indicates that there was a great increase in sickness in the town during January and February. This was largely due to the high incidence of cases of influenza with its attendant complications of pneumonia and bronchitis. As a result the number of deaths ascribed to these conditions increased especially amongst the aged population. There were 20 (1) deaths from influenza, 53 (26) from pneumonia, and 101 (69) from bronchitis. Figures in parentheses refer to 1960.

The relentless toll from cancer of the lung and bronchus continues unabated and the rates for the years 1957 to 1961 on page 22 indicate that the epidemic is still gathering force. The latest thought on this needless loss of life suggests that what really matters is the sum total of aerial pollution which reaches the respiratory system. That a non-smoker living in an urban atmosphere such as Wigan is as likely to get cancer of the lung as a resident of a clean rural area such as Anglesey who smokes 40 cigarettes a day. If to the general urban pollution one adds cigarette smoke and concentrated pollution from an industrial process, one can imagine the continual assault on lung and bronchial tissue which over the years leads inexorably to the train bronchial catarrh, chronic bronchitis and finally often in early middle life to cancer.

The cleansing of the urban air is not an easy matter. There are many formalities ; many vested interests to overcome but slowly and with quickening momentum the task is going ahead. The response of industry in the town has been most encouraging. A review of the progress of smoke control areas is given on page 94.

I have never before drawn attention to the table on page 21, Inquests and Uncertified Deaths, but ones interest cannot help being arrested by the information that in 1961 there were 14 suicides and 4 open verdicts. Death



in 10 of these cases was due to coal gas poisoning. There were also two deaths due to accidental coal gas poisoning. It would appear that in Wigan at any rate coal gas is a greater hazard than the busy roads. There were 10 fatal road accidents. We cannot bring traffic to a halt, but it is possible to supply household gas without the toxic carbon monoxide fraction.

Two new ventures in the Child Welfare Services both long overdue but unavoidably held over for lack of staff are the toddler clinic held weekly by appointment at Pemberton and the child guidance clinic, details of which are given on pages 32 and 33.

Health Visitors have been given the additional responsibility of screening of children for phenylketonuria. Special care is also taken to ensure that the "vulnerable groups" are adequately followed up and screened at appropriate intervals particularly to exclude the possibility of deafness or other congenital deformation resulting from maternal infection in pregnancy.

It has been found possible to re-organise the work of the domiciliary midwives in such a way as to allow certain of them to be attached to particular groups of general practitioners attending ante-natal clinics held in the surgeries and generally becoming more closely associated with the doctors' domiciliary midwifery practice. The only bar to further extension of these facilities is shortage of staff. In a similar manner it was hoped to second Health Visitors to help with some of the domiciliary work of general practitioners particularly as regards the care of young babies and children and also after-care of certain categories of persons discharged from hospital who require special and concentrated advice on their condition if they are to keep well. Diabetic and peptic ulcer patients are particularly in need of help. However, the continued shortage of Health Visitors has so far precluded this scheme.

The Home Nursing Service has been greatly helped by the introduction of disposable syringes and a mechanical patient lift is available on loan. Both are designed to ease the burden on the nursing staff who have absorbed much additional work over the last few years since the provision of personal motor transport.

The calls on the Ambulance Service continue to increase as does the efficiency of the unit in terms of economy in the use of vehicles. This year a record number of almost 50,000 patients were carried. Each new clinic or day-care hospital unit brings inevitably an increase in patients to be carried and as the present point of expansion is at Billinge Hospital, some five miles out of the Borough, the strain on the service has been considerable. An additional new 15 seater sitting case vehicle and crew helped considerably. The year was memorable also for the opening of the new Ambulance Station which took place on the 30th August. The building is of modern design and houses men and vehicles as befits a service organised to tackle emergencies at short notice as well as providing for routine round the clock journeys to hospitals and institutions both in Wigan and as far as Manchester, Liverpool and Southport where many of the specialist treatment units are located.

The future work of the health service will be closely linked with Health Education for we must never lose sight of the principle of prevention. New techniques of mass approach are being developed and more money and effort

is being expended by the Central Government on television and other mass media. Although it is impossible with limited expenditure for any local authority alone to make more than a modest impact, nevertheless we must be ready to complement national campaigns with well directed local effort. That a start has been made can be seen from the information in the appropriate section page 52, but much remains to be done and the rather specialist nature of the work will probably require specially trained staff not at present readily available.

The period of the report covers the first full year of operation of the Mental Health Act, 1959, and so far the comments in my previous report (1960) have been borne out. There is as yet no sign of the wholesale discharge of sub-normal persons from hospital and although plans for a hostel are well advanced it is doubtful whether we could at present find sufficient cases to make the project worthwhile. This must not engender complacency however for if we are to keep in the community the persons for whom we are at present responsible and indeed are training in our workshops we must be in a position to offer accommodation if for any reason their families fail them.

Opportunity has been seized during the year to diversify the work undertaken at Marylebone Training Centre and as a pilot venture it has proved highly successful due in no small part to the devoted efforts of the small staff often working in extreme difficulties. It is not possible to admit more trainees to the unit and we must hope for an early start to a larger and more permanent one. Research has thrown up a number of severely sub-normal females living with their families who whilst not capable of attending a training centre are perhaps able to take an interest in diversional therapy. It is hoped to start a small scheme on the lines of a senior part time creche to help these young women and their families.

A reorganisation of classes in the Junior Training Centre has enabled more advanced work to be attempted by the "intermediate group."

Experience of infectious disease in the Borough has been unremarkable except for the incidence of influenza mentioned earlier and the notification of 1608 cases of measles the largest number since 1955. Although no deaths were attributed to this disease nevertheless it is responsible for a great deal of ill health later in life should broncho pneumonia appear as a complication. Efforts to find a suitable protective antigen are being made, so perhaps we may soon be in a position to relegate measles to the same status as diphtheria and whooping cough neither of which was notified during the year. Indeed, it is nine years since we had a case of the former disease in the Borough.

There were two cases of paralytic poliomyelitis notified, both under school age.

The number of notifications of pulmonary T.B. was 34, a substantial reduction on the figure for 1960. The predominance of cases in middle aged men upon which I have commented in previous reports continues. There is no doubt that we must spare no effort to stamp out completely these diseases for which we hold the key in immunological techniques.



The staff of the Department are extremely keen and we lack only the full co-operation of the public to achieve success. It is extremely exasperating and certainly anti-social to neglect to seek protection for months or years and then to swamp clinics and staff at the first sign of an outbreak of disease.

The report of work in the Welfare Services Section is sufficiently detailed to require little comment but it is pleasing to report the increasing use of the facilities offered to doctors and others for the short-term care of the aged in Part III accommodation. This is an extremely valuable service and one which deserves the widest publicity for it enables families and individuals who are devotedly caring for their aged relatives and friends to have a brief respite perhaps to proceed on holiday.

Less spectacular is the work of the Department in preventing the eviction and consequent breakup of families, 27 such cases were dealt with, and only two were actually evicted. This is indeed preventative welfare and like the work in avoiding statutory action under Section 47 of the National Assistance Act 1948 covers a great deal of humanitarian effort on the part of the staff in both health and welfare services.

The work of the Public Health Inspectors in environmental hygiene, inspection and supervision of food, meat inspection, housing, smoke control and other tasks too numerous to mention is reviewed in the report by the Chief Public Health Inspector, Mr. J. B. Marsh.

In concluding this introduction I would mention particularly changes in senior staff which have taken place during the year.

In July Dr. I. M. Smith left the Department after 36 years and on behalf of myself and my predecessors in office, I wish to record my deep appreciation of the devoted work, particularly in the field of Maternity and Child Welfare which she carried out. They were years of promise and achievement when the infantile mortality rate was reduced from 120 to 21.7 and the maternal death rate from 3.7 to nil. We in the Department wish her a long and happy retirement.

The Department was strengthened by the appointment of Dr. A. Sippert as Deputy Medical Officer of Health and Dr. T. L. O'Donnell as Assistant Medical Officer both of whom we welcome.

Throughout the Department staffing problems have faced us and here and there work has been interrupted for lack of trained technical staff. Whenever possible we are sponsoring students or trainees in an effort to solve the problem on a long term basis. The Department takes an active part in the actual practical training of Health Visitors, Midwives, Training Centre Supervisors and Nursery Nurses.

In conclusion I must express my thanks to the staff for their loyal co-operation and for the good work which they have done throughout the year. Similarly to the Chief Officers and Technical Advisors of other Departments

for their help from time to time and lastly to the Chairman and members of the Health Committee for the interest and enthusiasm with which they have received the many problems which have been brought to them throughout the year.

J. HAWORTH HILDITCH,

*Medical Officer of Health.*

HEALTH OFFICE,

MUNICIPAL BUILDINGS,

LIBRARY STREET,

WIGAN.

TELEPHONE NO. WIGAN 44204.

JULY, 1962.

*Section /*

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**Natural and  
Social Conditions  
of the Area**

**GENERAL**

Area in acres	.....	5,083
Rateable Value of the Borough, 31st December, 1961	....	£961,775
Sum Represented by a Penny Rate	....	£3,850
Registrar General's estimated population on 1st July, 1961 (on which figure statistics in this report are based)	....	78,910
Number of inhabited houses on the 31st December, 1961 (according to the Rate books)	....	24,784
Number of marriages solemnised within the Borough during 1961		732

The Borough of Wigan forms a considerable part of the valley of the River Douglas. The river, which is the boundary on the north side, continues its course to the centre of the town and finally becomes the boundary at the west side. The levels on which the river enters and leaves are respectively 150 and 69 feet above sea level. Water taken from the river feeds the Leeds and Liverpool Canal which traverses the town. Due to the meagre drop in level the river water flows slowly and the bed is self-cleaning only during the winter months. The waters are badly polluted before they enter the Borough and as a result of this and subsequent pollution the river maintains little or no life—plant nor animal. The maximum elevations of the town are at the extreme north 254 feet and at the south-west 260 feet. The lowest level is at the north-west boundary which is 69 feet above sea level.

Geologically, the whole of the Borough rests on the lower coal measures, or Gannister beds, which are here very superficial. This has led to outcrop mining in several parts of the district. The subsoil is mainly clay which in places has a depth of nearly 20 feet; but there is an important layer of sand covering a large part of the centre of the town and extending northwards in the direction of Standish. This sand is also found in “pockets” in other parts of the Borough. Much of the Western portion, beyond the Park, lies on a fairly extensive gravel bed.

Extensive mining operations over several generations have brought about subsidence in many parts of the Borough. In some areas this has had a disastrous effect on property and is a constant source of worry both as regards the condition of old sewers and water mains and planning sites for new buildings.

The population is essentially an industrial one, the principal industries being manufacture of coal mining equipment, iron and steel working, cotton spinning and weaving and the manufacture of clothing and telephone equipment.

More recently the Reed Corrugated Paper Group have opened an extensive factory for the production of paper board packing cases.

The development of the Lamberhead Green trading estate brought some light industry to the town but much more work of this sort is required if we are



to continue to attract the younger workers. The Ministry of Labour Remploy Factory caters for the disabled who are able to perform useful work.

The number of elderly citizens in the community is increasing. Many young married people, particularly in Social Classes III and IV, are moving out to the less congested dormitory areas on the periphery of the town. From here many return daily to seek their living in Wigan and invariably they use the facilities available in the Borough for education, recreation and shopping.

If we are to continue to attract the younger element two services are essential—good housing and suitable work. The former is in the hands of the local authority and the progressive policy of building flats and houses including some houses for sale to the public should help considerably. Attracting new light industry is more difficult and may need the stimulus of direction from the Government Departments and Industrial Development Committees concerned.



## *Section II*



# **Statistics**

## VITAL STATISTICS, 1960-61

	1960	1961
Area (acres) ....	5,083	5,083
Population (Estimated by Registrar General) ....	80,950	78,910
Live Births : Males 662 } Total ....	1,337	1,240
Females 578 }		
Rate per 1,000 population ....	16.52	15.71
Illegitimate Live Births per cent. of total live births ....	3.36	4.03
Stillbirths : Number ....	27	26
Rate per 1,000 total live and still births ....	19.79	20.54
Total Live and Still Births ....	1,364	1,266
Infant Deaths (Deaths under 1 year) ....	38	27
Infant Mortality Rates :		
Total Infant Deaths per 1,000 total live births....	28.42	21.77
Legitimate Infant Deaths per 1,000 legitimate live births	28.42	21.85
Illegitimate Infant Deaths per 1,000 illegitimate live births ....	—	20.00
Neo-natal Mortality Rate (deaths under 4 weeks per 1,000 total live births) ....	23.93	14.52
Early Neo-natal Mortality Rate (deaths under 1 week per 1,000 total live births) ....	20.94	12.10
Perinatal Mortality Rate (stillbirths and deaths under 1 week combined per 1,000 total live and still births) ....	40.32	32.39
Maternal Mortality (including abortion) :		
Number of Deaths ....	1	—
Rate per 1,000 total live and still births ....	0.73	—
Adjusted Birth Rate per 1,000 Population (Area comparability factor 0.98) ....	16.19	15.40
Ratio of local adjusted rate to national rate ....	0.94	0.88
Birth Rate for England and Wales ....	17.1	17.4
Deaths of Infants under 1 day old ....	15	11
Ditto. 1 year (legitimate) ....	38	26
Ditto. 1 year (illegitimate) ....	—	1
Excess of Registered Births over Deaths ....	362	142
Deaths : Males 569 } Total ....	975	1098
Females 529 }		
Death Rate per 1,000 population ....	12.04	13.91
Adjusted Death Rate per 1,000 population (Area comparability factor 1.19) ....	14.45	16.55
Ratio of local adjusted rate to national rate ....	1.25	1.38
Death Rate for England and Wales ....	11.5	12.0
Infantile mortality rate per 1,000 births for England and Wales ....	21.7	21.4



## CAUSES OF DEATH WITH DEATH RATES, 1961

DISEASE							No. of Deaths	Rate
1.	Tuberculosis, Respiratory	...	...	...	...	...	7	.09
2.	Tuberculosis, Other	...	...	...	...	...	1	.01
3.	Syphilitic Disease	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
4.	Diphtheria	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
5.	Whooping Cough	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
6.	Meningococcal Infections	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
7.	Acute Poliomyelitis	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
8.	Measles	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
9.	Other Infective and Parasitic Diseases	...	...	...	...	...	3	.04
10.	Malignant Neoplasm Stomach	...	...	...	...	...	23	.29
11.	„ „ Lung, Bronchus	...	...	...	...	...	45	.57
12.	„ „ Breast	...	...	...	...	...	13	.17
13.	„ „ Uterus	...	...	...	...	...	4	.05
14.	Other Malignant and Lymphatic Neoplasms	...	...	...	...	...	64	.81
15.	Leukaemia, Aleukaemia	...	...	...	...	...	2	.03
16.	Diabetes	...	...	...	...	...	6	.08
17.	Vascular Lesions of Nervous System	...	...	...	...	...	142	1.80
18.	Coronary Disease, Angina	...	...	...	...	...	185	2.34
19.	Hypertension with Heart Disease	...	...	...	...	...	13	.17
20.	Other Heart Disease	...	...	...	...	...	166	2.10
21.	Other Circulatory Disease	...	...	...	...	...	53	.67
22.	Influenza	...	...	...	...	...	20	.25
23.	Pneumonia	...	...	...	...	...	53	.67
24.	Bronchitis	...	...	...	...	...	101	1.28
25.	Other Diseases of Respiratory System	...	...	...	...	...	22	.28
26.	Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum	...	...	...	...	...	4	.05
27.	Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhoea	...	...	...	...	...	2	.03
28.	Nephritis and Nephrosis	...	...	...	...	...	8	.10
29.	Hyperplasia of Prostate	...	...	...	...	...	8	.10
30.	Pregnancy, Childbirth, Abortion	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
31.	Congenital Malformations	...	...	...	...	...	9	.11
32.	Other Defined and Ill-Defined Diseases	...	...	...	...	...	102	1.30
33.	Motor Vehicle Accidents	...	...	...	...	...	10	.12
34.	All Other Accidents	...	...	...	...	...	18	.23
35.	Suicide	...	...	...	...	...	14	.18
36.	Homicide and Operations of War	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
							1098	13.91

# REGISTRAR GENERAL'S SHORT LIST OF CAUSES OF DEATH, 1961

CAUSES	Sex	All Ages	0+	1+	5+	15+	25+	45+	65+	75+
ALL CAUSES ... ..	M. F.	569 529	15 12	2 2	2 —	7 3	18 7	195 118	175 131	155 256
1. Tuberculosis, Respiratory ... ..	M. F.	7 —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	6 —	— —	1 —
2. Tuberculosis, Other ... ..	M. F.	1 —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	1 —	— —
3. Syphilitic Disease ... ..	M. F.	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —
4. Diphtheria ... ..	M. F.	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —
5. Whooping Cough ... ..	M. F.	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —
6. Meningococcal Infections ... ..	M. F.	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —
7. Acute Poliomyelitis ... ..	M. F.	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —
8. Measles ... ..	M. F.	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —
9. Other Infective and Parasitic Diseases ... ..	M. F.	1 2	— 1	1 —	— —	— —	— —	— 1	— —	— —
10. Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach	M. F.	15 8	— —	— —	— —	— —	1 1	8 5	3 1	3 1
11. Malignant Neoplasm, Lung, Bronchus ... ..	M. F.	39 6	— —	— —	— —	— —	1 —	20 3	13 2	5 1
12. Malignant Neoplasm, Breast	F.	13	—	—	—	—	—	8	1	4
13. Malignant Neoplasm, Uterus	F.	4	—	—	—	—	—	2	2	—
14. Other Malignant and Lymphatic Neoplasms ... ..	M. F.	27 37	— —	— 1	— —	— —	1 —	8 12	10 11	8 13
15. Leukaemia, Aleukaemia ... ..	M. F.	1 1	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— 1	— —	1 —
16. Diabetes ... ..	M. F.	2 4	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— 1	1 1	1 2
17. Vascular Lesions of Nervous System ... ..	M. F.	60 82	— 1	— —	— —	1 —	3 —	16 17	19 18	21 46
18. Coronary Disease, Angina ... ..	M. F.	122 63	— —	— —	— —	— —	2 1	53 18	41 22	26 22

## REGISTRAR GENERAL'S SHORT LIST OF CAUSES OF DEATH

1961—continued

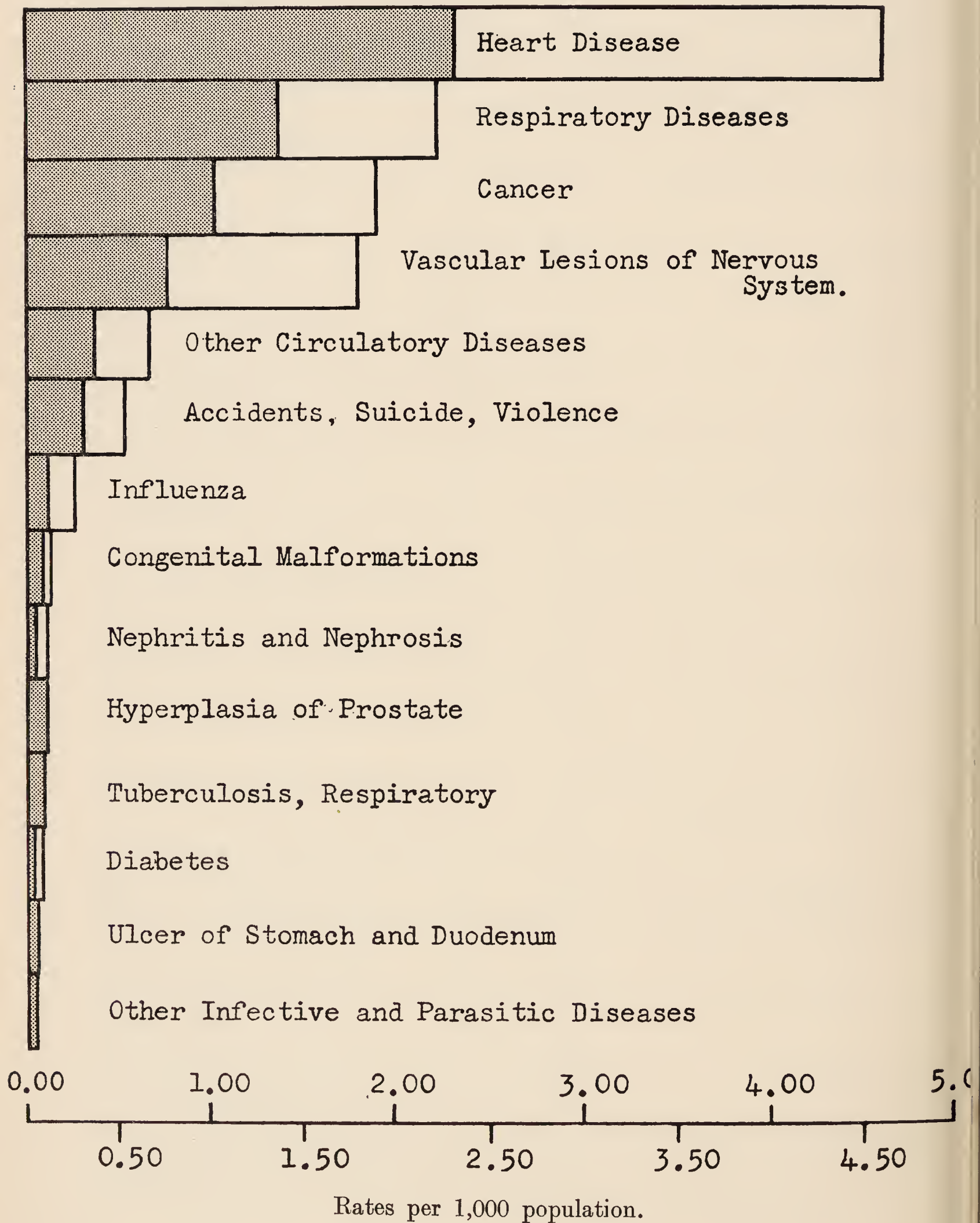
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# PRINCIPAL CAUSES OF DEATHS AT ALL AGES, 1961

SHADED PORTION = MALES

UNSHADED PORTION = FEMALES



### Crude Death Rates for Wigan During the last Ten Years

1952	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959	1960	1961
13.15	12.02	11.37	11.06	11.02	11.53	11.57	11.07	12.04	13.91

### INQUESTS AND UNCERTIFIED DEATHS (Wigan Residents Only)

The number of inquests held during 1961 was 84, and the following verdicts have been recorded :—

1. Natural Causes	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	43
2. Accidents :									
Road	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	10
Falls : Home	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	4
Hospital	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	1
Colliery	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	3
Electrocution	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	1
Gas	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	2
Burns	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	1
Operation	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	1
3. Suicide :									
Hanging	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	4
Gas	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	8
Fall from Railway Bridge	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	1
Aspirin Poisoning	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	1
4. Open :									
Gas	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	2
Drowning	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	1
Poisoning	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	1
									<hr/> 84 <hr/>

There was no uncertified death in 1961.

## DEATHS FROM CERTAIN RESPIRATORY DISEASES

### Comparative Rates for the Past Five Years

#### Bronchitis

			1957	1958	1959	1960	1961
Deaths ....	....	....	79	88	88	69	101
Rates ....	....	....	0.97	1.08	1.09	0.85	1.28

#### Pneumonia

			1957	1958	1959	1960	1961
Deaths ....	....	....	37	38	35	26	53
Rates ....	....	....	0.45	0.47	0.43	0.32	0.67

#### Pulmonary Tuberculosis

			1957	1958	1959	1960	1961
Deaths ....	....	....	13	10	9	9	7
Rates ....	....	....	0.16	0.12	0.11	0.11	0.09

#### Cancer of the Lung, Bronchus

			1957	1958	1959	1960	1961
Deaths ....	....	....	38	27	40	41	45
Rates ....	....	....	0.47	0.33	0.49	0.50	0.57

#### Other Diseases of Respiratory Organs

			1957	1958	1959	1960	1961
Deaths ....	....	....	18	22	21	11	22
Rates ....	....	....	0.22	0.27	0.26	0.14	0.28

#### Total from All Respiratory Causes

			1957	1958	1959	1960	1961
Deaths ....	....	....	185	185	193	156	228
Rates ....	....	....	2.27	2.27	2.38	1.92	2.89

### CANCER

#### Deaths 1896-1961

	No.	Rate		No.	Rate
1896—1900	137	0.44	1931—1935	538	1.28
1901—1905	179	0.53	1936—1940	586	1.42
1906—1910	223	0.49	1941—1945	609	1.54
1911—1915	276	0.61	1946—1950	669	1.59
1916—1920	308	0.72	1951—1955	717	1.72
1921—1925	347	0.76	1956—1960	743	1.82
1926—1930	410	0.93	Year 1961	149	1.89

C A N C E R  
Localisation of Disease, Number of Deaths and Rate per 1,000  
Population Annually for the past Ten Years.

	1952		1953		1954		1955		1956		1957		1958		1959		1960		1961	
	No.	Rate	No.	Rate	No.	Rate	No.	Rate	No.	Rate	No.	Rate	No.	Rate	No.	Rate	No.	Rate	No.	Rate
Uterus ... ..	12	.14	9	.11	3	.04	5	.06	6	.07	6	.07	7	.09	6	.07	6	.07	4	.05
Stomach and Duodenum ...	29	.35	34	.41	28	.34	17	.21	30	.37	28	.34	33	.41	40	.49	29	.36	23	.29
Breast ... ..	13	.16	20	.24	14	.17	11	.13	17	.21	11	.13	14	.17	11	.14	14	.17	13	.17
Lung, Bronchus	27	.32	29	.35	20	.24	25	.30	27	.33	38	.47	27	.33	40	.49	41	.50	45	.57
Other Sites ...	74	.88	64	.77	57	.69	71	.86	51	.62	52	.64	52	.64	85	1.05	72	.89	64	.81
Total Deaths from Cancer ...	155	1.85	156	1.88	122	1.48	129	1.56	131	1.60	135	1.65	133	1.64	182	2.24	162	1.99	149	1.89
Total Deaths All Causes ...	1100	13.15	1001	12.02	944	11.37	915	11.06	905	11.02	942	11.53	941	11.57	959	11.82	975	12.04	1098	13.91



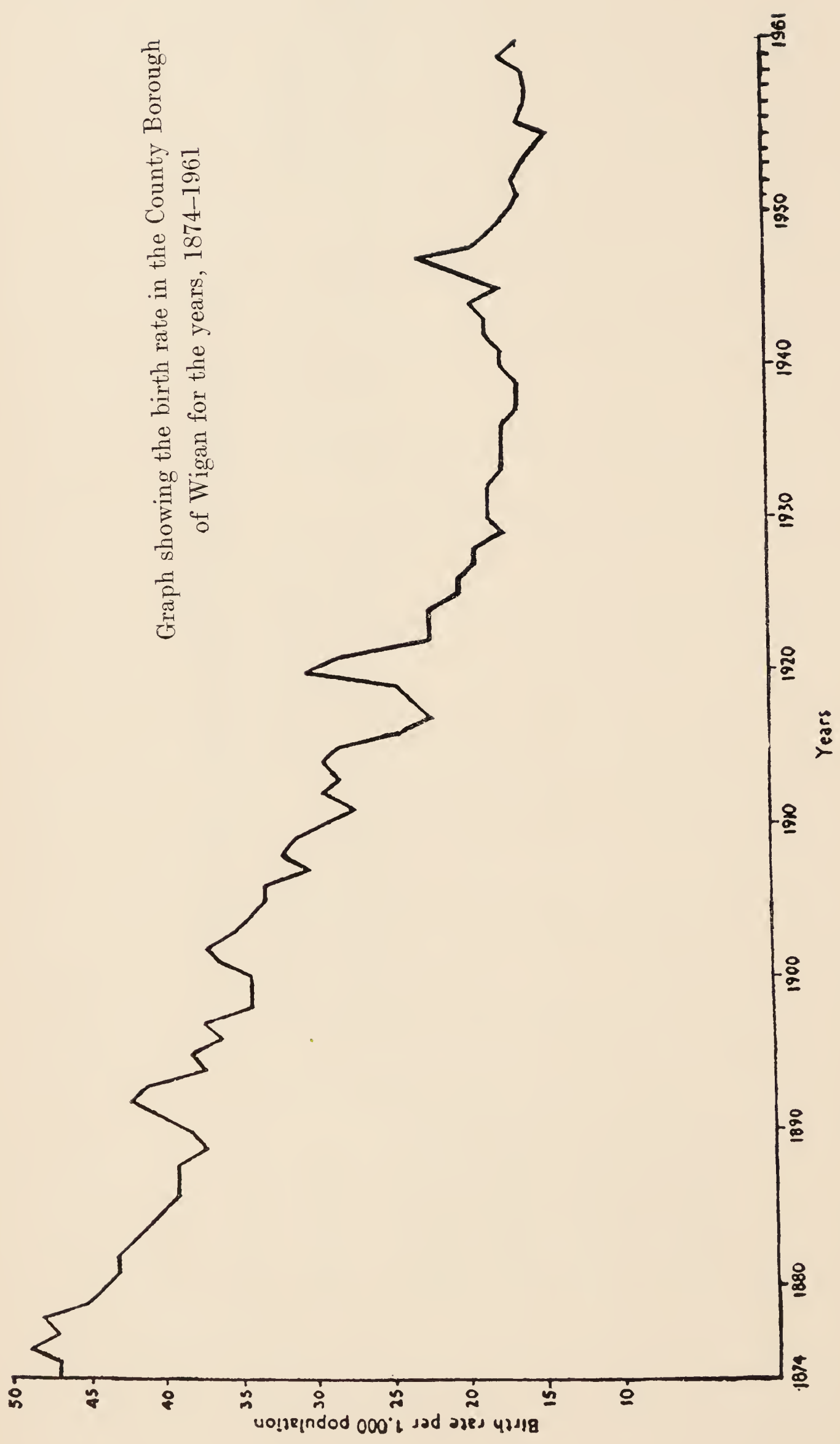
## ANALYSIS OF LIVE PREMATURE BIRTHS, 1961

Weight at Birth	Born at Home and Nursed at Home			Born at Home and transferred to Hospital			Born in Hospital			Born in Maternity Home		
	Total	died 24 hours	survived 28 days	Total	died 24 hours	survived 28 days	Total	died 24 hours	survived 28 days	Total	died 24 hours	survived 28 days
3lbs. 4ozs. or less (1500 gms. or less)	—	—	—	—	—	—	13	7	5	—	—	—
Over 3lbs. 4ozs. up to 4lbs. 6ozs. (1500-2000 gms.)	1	1	—	1	—	1	17	2	15	—	—	—
Over 4lbs. 6ozs. up to 4lbs. 15ozs. (2000-2250 gms.)	3	—	3	—	—	—	19	1	17	—	—	—
Over 4lbs. 15ozs. up to 5lbs. 8ozs. (2250-2500 gms.)	12	—	12	1	—	—	31	—	31	—	—	—
	16	1	15	2	—	1	80	10	68	—	—	—





Graph showing the birth rate in the County Borough  
of Wigan for the years, 1874-1961



## INFANTILE AND MATERNAL MORTALITY

### Infantile Mortality

The number of deaths of children under one year was 27, a rate of 21.77 per 1,000 births, and of children over 1 year and under five years 4, or .05 per 1,000 of the population. (In 1960 there were 38 deaths under 1 year, a rate of 28.42 per 1,000).

The deaths occurred as follows :—

HOME :	HOSPITALS :
4	15 Billinge Hospital
	6 Royal Albert Edward Infirmary
	2 Whelley Hospital

Of these, 15, *i.e.*, 55.5% died during the first week of life.

The NEO-NATAL DEATH RATE (deaths per 1,000 live births on or before the 28th day of life) was 14.52. The numbers were :—

	Male	Female	Total
Legitimate ....	11	7	18
Illegitimate....	—	—	—
	—	—	—
	11	7	18
	==	==	==

Prematurity remains the most important factor responsible for the loss of infant lives and in 1961 there were 14 deaths owing to prematurity *i.e.* 50.7%. In the majority of these cases the infants failed to survive 24 hours.

The STILL-BIRTH RATE for the year was 20.54 compared with 19.79 in 1960.

The average rates for the previous 30 years were as follows :—

1931–1940	....	....	....	51.5
1941–1950	....	....	....	37.2
1951–1960	....	....	....	31.24

The principal causes of still birth were toxæmia of pregnancy, anti-partum hæmorrhage and congenital malformation.

The PERINATAL RATE for the year was 32.39 compared with 40.32 in 1960.

This was primarily due to the drop in the number of deaths in the first week of life which reflects as a decrease in the neo-natal mortality rate and the infant mortality rate.

The average rates for the previous 30 years were as follows :—

1931–1940	....	....	....	79.9
1941–1950	....	....	....	58.9
1951–1960	....	....	....	46.71

### Maternal Mortality

There were no maternal deaths in the year.

# INFANT MORTALITY, 1961

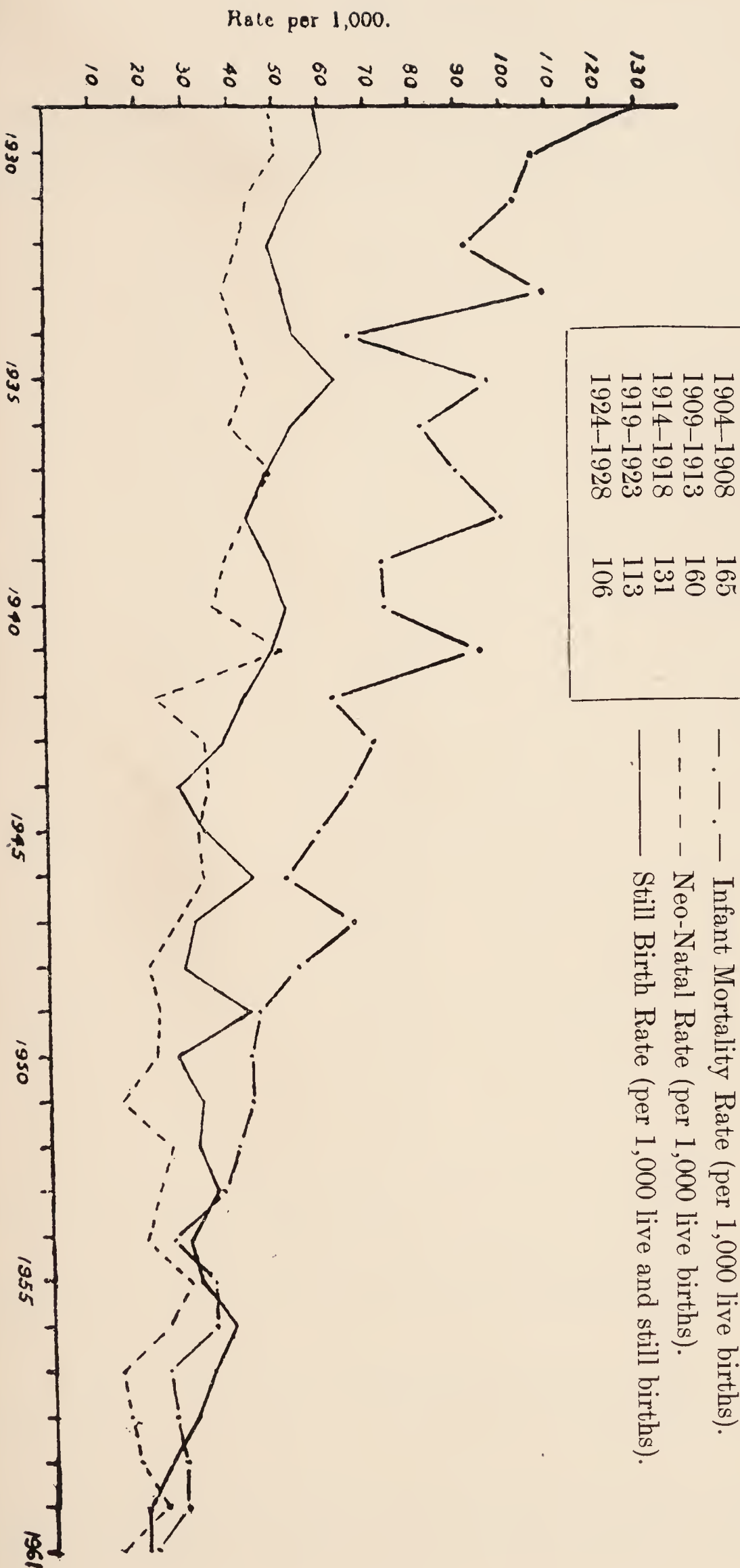
## Number of Deaths from stated Causes at Various Periods

### Under 1 Year of Age

CAUSE OF DEATH	Class No.	Un- der 1 day	1 day	2 Days	3 Days	4 Days	5 Days	6 Days	7- 13 Days	14- 20 Days	21- 28 Days	28 days to 2 mths	2 mths	3 mths	4 mths	5 mths	6 mths	7 mths	8 mths	9 mths	10 mths	11 mths	Total Deaths under 1 yr.
Acute Encephalitis	9	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Cerebral Haemorrhage	17	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Bronchopneumonia	23	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	2
with Sev. inop. spina bip.		—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Congenital heart disease	31	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
with prematurity		—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
with gastro-enteritis		—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Spina bifida		—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
with hydrocephalus		1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
Prematurity	32	5	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	7
with twin pregnancy		—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
with twin preg. plac. ins.		—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
with cardiac syncope		1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
with congenital talipes		1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
with respiratory failure		1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
with spina bifida		1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Hydrocephalus		—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Plac. Insuff. asphyxia pallida		1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Fibrocystic pancreas, bronchopneumonia		—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
		13	2	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	2	—	3	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	27

Infant Mortality Rate	
5-year periods, 1874-1928	
1874-1878	200
1879-1883	177
1884-1888	171
1889-1893	184
1894-1898	175
1899-1903	184
1904-1908	165
1909-1913	160
1914-1918	131
1919-1923	113
1924-1928	106

GRAPH showing the INFANT MORTALITY AND STILL BIRTH RATES  
in the County Borough of Wigan for the years 1929-1961







**MORBIDITY****Wigan Area**

The figures given below, compiled by the local office of the Ministry of National Insurance, indicate the number of persons applying for sickness benefit (first certificate only) week by week during the year 1961.

Jan.	3rd	....	810	July	4th	....	522
,,	10th	....	854	,,	11th	....	491
,,	17th	....	929	,,	18th	....	340
,,	24th	....	1450	,,	25th	....	432
,,	31st	....	1750	Aug.	1st	....	526
Feb.	7th	....	1430	,,	8th	....	398
,,	14th	....	873	,,	15th	....	471
,,	21st	....	636	,,	22nd	....	424
,,	28th	....	529	,,	29th	....	473
Mar.	7th	....	495	Sept.	5th	....	612
,,	14th	....	508	,,	12th	....	529
,,	21st	....	479	,,	19th	....	514
,,	28th	....	488	,,	26th	....	529
April	4th	....	397	Oct.	3rd	....	586
,,	11th	....	598	,,	10th	....	581
,,	18th	....	479	,,	17th	....	617
,,	25th	....	495	,,	24th	....	598
May	2nd	....	470	,,	31st	....	657
,,	9th	....	506	Nov.	7th	....	591
,,	16th	....	504	,,	14th	....	645
,,	23rd	....	501	,,	21st	....	698
,,	30th	....	584	,,	28th	....	674
June	6th	....	522	Dec.	5th	....	716
,,	13th	....	486	,,	12th	....	804
,,	20th	....	486	,,	19th	....	745
,,	27th	....	515	,,	26th	....	706

The average weekly number of persons applying for sickness benefit increased from 558 in 1960 to 612.

The interesting feature lies in the sharp increase in sickness during January and February when cases of influenza of a moderate to severe nature rose to epidemic proportions.

This phenomenon was accompanied by an increase in deaths ascribed to influenza, pneumonia and bronchitis particularly amongst the aged in the community.

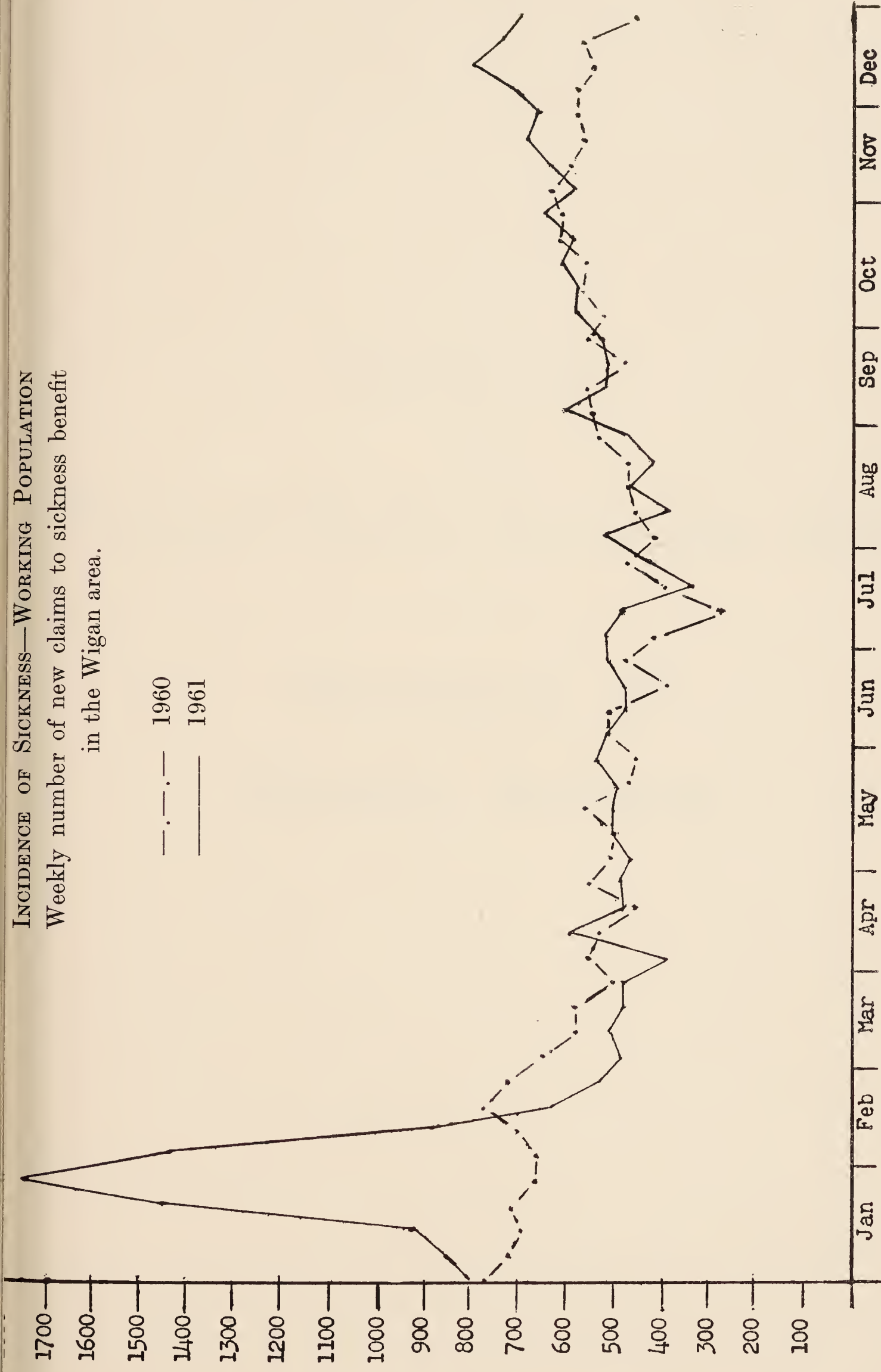
The last epidemic of influenza was in 1959 and two years prior to that in 1957 we experienced the devastating attack of "Asian" influenza. It does seem that a definite pattern of epidemic incidence at two yearly intervals is emerging.





INCIDENCE OF SICKNESS—WORKING POPULATION  
Weekly number of new claims to sickness benefit  
in the Wigan area.

--- 1960  
— 1961





*Section III*

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**National Health Service Act, 1946**

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**Provision of  
Health Services**

## CARE OF EXPECTANT AND NURSING MOTHERS AND CHILDREN UNDER SCHOOL AGE

The undermentioned Centres are open on the days and at the times stated :—

Centre	Days Open
WIGAN CENTRAL CLINIC, Health Centre, Millgate.	Infant and Young Children's Clinic : Wednesday afternoons 1-30 to 4-0 p.m. Ante-Natal Clinic : Tuesdays, 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. A Consultant attends on one Thursday of each month. Post-Natal Clinic : On two Thursdays each month at 2 p.m. Dental Clinic for expectant and nursing mothers and young children : Tuesday afternoon. Class for expectant mothers : Friday afternoons at 2 p.m.
PEMBERTON CLINIC : 15, Billinge Road.	Infant and Young Children's Clinic : Monday afternoons, 2 to 4 p.m. Ante-Natal Clinic : Thursday afternoons at 2 p.m. A Consultant attends on one Thursday of each month.
SCHOLES CLINIC : St. Catharine's Mission, Platt Lane.	Infant and Young Children's Clinic : Friday afternoons, 2 to 4 p.m.
WORSLEY MESNES CLINIC : Methodist Church, Poolstock Lane.	Infant and Young Children's Clinic : Wednesday mornings, 10 a.m. to 12 noon.
SPRINGFIELD CLINIC : St. Andrew's Church House, Woodhouse Lane.	Infant and Young Children's Clinic : Tuesday afternoons, 2 to 4 p.m.
LAMBERHEAD GREEN CLINIC : Methodist Church, Fleet Street.	Infant and Young Children's Clinic : Thursday mornings, 9-30 a.m. to 11-30 a.m.
GOOSE GREEN CLINIC : Methodist Church, Northumberland Street.	Infant and Young Children's Clinic : Thursday afternoons, 2 to 4 p.m.
MARSH GREEN CLINIC : St. Barnabas Church, Marsh Green.	Infant and Young Children's Clinic : Wednesday afternoons, 1-30 to 3-30 p.m.
ORTHOPAEDIC CLINIC : Health Centre, Millgate.	Open each Monday morning. Surgeon attends twice monthly. Cases from Ince, Hindley, Standish, Aspull, Haigh, Shevington and Platt Bridge also attend.



## Ante-Natal Care

General practitioners are now booked to undertake the ante-natal care of expectant mothers in more than 97% of home confinements. This is reflected in attendances at the local authority ante-natal clinics. A changing pattern is emerging at the clinics where there is an increasing trend towards the more educational aspect of maternal welfare, including the instruction of mothers in matters relating to the health of themselves and their families and giving them other information designed to develop the best psychological approach to the actual delivery.

## Ante-Natal Clinics

Three ante-natal clinic sessions are held each week—two at the Central Clinic, Millgate, and one at Billinge Road, Pemberton. An Assistant Medical Officer is present at the sessions and a Consultant attends at each centre one session per month.

	WIGAN CENTRE		PEMBERTON	
	Weekly Clinic	Consultant Clinic	Weekly Clinic	Consultant Clinic
Number of Primary Cases attending Clinic during year	381	4	128	48
Total number of attendances	1731	194	720	263

## Post Natal-Clinics

For post-natal care two sessions per month are held at one centre, each alternate session being attended by a Consultant. Domiciliary cases where no doctor was engaged and cases delivered in hospital may attend for examination. 136 new cases were examined during the year and there were 27 return cases, a total of 163 attendances.

## Care of Expectant Mothers

A mothercraft training and exercise class for expectant primiparae is held at the Central Clinic each week. It is conducted by the Health Visitors. 50 classes were held during the year 1961 and 863 attendances were made by mothers.

Chest x-ray of expectant mothers and the taking of blood samples for testing for the Rhesus factor, the Wasserman reaction and the haemoglobin content are all part of the ante-natal care undertaken at Clinics. Iron therapy in the form of Ferrous Gluconate tablets is available and a supply of welfare orange juice, vitamins and welfare foods may also be obtained. Maternity outfits are provided for domestic confinements and are under the charge of the non-medical supervisor of midwives. The midwife engaged is responsible for ensuring that each of the patients receives an outfit.

## Care of Unmarried Mothers

There is one residential home in Wigan for expectant and nursing unmarried mothers. It is under the control of the Liverpool Diocesan Church Council but is not restricted to Church of England members and the local authority pay a substantial amount yearly towards its maintenance. The local health authority clinics are available to the girls and advantage is taken of these facilities. A Health Visitor visits the Home regularly which ensures liaison with the staff.

## Child Welfare Centres

The local authority has eight child welfare centres, at which one clinic is held each week. Each is in charge of a Health Visitor and an Assistant Medical Officer attends the clinic sessions. During the year the numbers of persons attending were as follows :—

CLINIC	Children			Total	Primary Cases	Cases examined by medical attendant	Mothers Attend'g
	under 1 year	over 1 and under 2	2 and under 5				
Central ... ..	2380	538	538	3456	397	1314	2981
Scholes ... ..	1423	529	578	2530	176	1022	2069
Pemberton ... ..	1263	298	336	1897	191	842	1579
Worsley Mesnes ... ..	554	146	193	893	66	211	743
Springfield ... ..	1866	459	481	2806	276	1242	2475
Fleet Street ... ..	821	287	356	1464	105	468	1236
Goose Green ... ..	735	173	224	1132	70	428	964
Marsh Green ... ..	1005	332	536	1873	187	337	1479
	10047	2762	3242	16051	1468	5864	13526

Comparative attendances for the last 5 years :

INFANTS :	1957	1958	1959	1960	1961
Total Attendances ....	13760	14456	15629	15833	16051
Primary Attendances....	1028	1056	994	1243	1468

EXPECTANT MOTHERS :

Central :

Weekly Clinic ....	1555	1744	2029	1813	1731
Consultant Clinic ....	231	192	199	171	194

PEMBERTON :

Weekly Clinic ....	946	1299	1062	839	720
Consultant Clinic ....	238	197	316	241	263

No Consultant attends at the child welfare centres but cases are referred from them to the Paediatrician at the Royal Albert Edward Infirmary. A Health Visitor attends the Paediatric Clinic at the Infirmary weekly as liaison officer and adviser on the social aspects of the cases. Cases are also referred to the Infirmary for orthoptic treatment.

Orthopaedic treatment is available at the local authority's clinic in Millgate.

The screening of vulnerable children for deafness is carried out by a Health Visitor, who has attended the Department of Education for the Deaf at Manchester University for instruction. Five screening sessions were held in 1961, two children being referred to Manchester University for further investigation. Since October, 1961 the screening of vulnerable children where a risk of deafness is present is carried out routinely.

A Toddler Clinic was started at Billinge Road Welfare Centre in October 1961. An Assistant Medical Officer attends this Session to which children are referred by the Health Visitors. It appears that this Clinic will be a continued success.



## Child Guidance

On the 1st November, Dr. A. Gage took up his appointment as Consultant Child Psychiatrist with the Manchester Regional Hospital Board and from that date he has attended on two sessions each week at the Central Clinic, Millgate. In addition to Dr. Gage an educational psychologist and a psychiatric social worker are employed at the clinic. School and pre-school children from Wigan and the surrounding districts are seen and the new facility is a very welcome additional service.

## Distribution of Welfare Foods

A Welfare Foods Shop is situated in the Municipal Buildings and from it welfare foods are distributed.

The quantity of Welfare Foods distributed during the year is shown below:

National Dried Milk	....	....	....	28,742 tins
Orange Juice	....	....	....	31,215 bottles
Cod Liver Oil	....	....	....	4,697 bottles
Vitamin A and D tablets	....	....	....	5,032 packets

In addition the following other commodities were sold at the Welfare Foods Shop and the various Maternity and Child Welfare Clinics :

Proprietary Milks	....	....	....	30,399 packs
Vitamin Supplements	....	....	....	5,474 „
Rose Hip Syrup	....	....	....	4,105 „
Cereals	....	....	....	4,351 „
Malt Extract	....	....	....	1,025 „

The number of bottles of orange juice distributed fell from 51,593 in 1960 to 31,215 in 1961. This is due entirely to the fact that from the 1st June the Government decided to make a charge for orange juice to cover the cost of manufacture and distribution. The new charge is 1/6 per bottle and any quantity of the orange juice can now be purchased for a beneficiary. The old price was 5d. per bottle. Although a charge of 6d. per packet is now made for vitamin A and D tablets, there has only been a drop from 6,609 packets in 1960 to 5,032 in 1961. These tablets were previously distributed free of charge. Cod liver oil, also previously issued free of charge, is now charged for at 1/- per bottle. 4,689 bottles were distributed in 1961 compared with 6,601 in 1960.

## Dental Care and Treatment

I am indebted to the Principal School Dental Officer for the following summary of the dental work carried out during the year for the Maternity and Child Welfare Section :—

The arrangements for the dental examination and treatment of expectant mothers and children under school age, for the year under review, has been limited due to staff shortage.

One session each week, however, was allocated for this work and mothers attending the Ante-Natal Clinic were urged to attend for dental inspection. In some cases there was a reluctance to accept dental treatment but advice was given and in other instances there was a favourable response.

In addition to the inspection carried out at The Elms Nursery, children of pre-school age were referred for advice and treatment, by the Assistant Medical Officers and Health Visitors.

### Analysis of Priority Dental Care :

	Examined	Needing Treatment	Treated	Made Dentally Fit
Expectant and Nursing Mothers ...	133	56	32	26
Children under five ... ..	36	22	18	17

## Forms of Dental Treatment provided :—

	Scalings and Gum Treatmt	Filing	Silver Nitrate Treat- ment	Crowns or Inlays	Extrac- tions	General Anaes- thetics	Dentures provided		Radio graphs
							Full Up. or Lr.	Part Up. or Lr.	
Expectant and Nursing Mothers	10	18	—	—	15	—	—	—	—
Children under Five ... ..	6	9	3	—	15	—	—	—	—

In addition to the above, 284 children under five years of age were inspected under the School Dental Service.

**DAY NURSERY**

There is accommodation for 67 children and the nursery is open Monday to Friday, 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.

It is provided primarily for children of mothers who go out to work and also for children whose parents are temporarily unable to care for them. Provision for social cases requiring residential accommodation is made at the Elms Nursery, which is under the control of the Children's Committee.

An Assistant Medical Officer attends the nursery at regular intervals to supervise the health of the children.

The average daily attendances at the Nursery during the year were 48 compared with 58 the previous year. This fall was partly due to outbreaks of measles and mumps. In addition, many children left the nursery when admitted to school soon after reaching the age of four. This was somewhat earlier than in previous years. A further factor which had some bearing on the reduced numbers attending was the increase in the standard charge from 6/- to 8/- per day which became operative from 27th February, 1961.

**Nursery and Child Minders' Regulations Act, 1948**

There are no industrial nurseries in the area but one person is registered as a child minder. Regular visits have been paid by the Department to ensure that the provisions of the Act are complied with.

**FAMILY PLANNING CLINIC**

The Authority was one of the pioneers in the dissemination of information regarding infertility and the spacing of families, and grants the use of the premises in Millgate to the Wigan Branch of the Family Planning Association. An evening session is held once each week and is well attended, the average attendances being 65 per session compared with 64 per session in 1960. This is the highest average attendance figure recorded since the Clinic opened in 1951. For lay staff the Clinic relies on voluntary workers from the Association. In addition specially trained women doctors and nurses are employed at each session. The service, although not in any way advertised in the public press is still increasing in popularity. There were 431 new patients during the year. There is no doubt that the clinic is contributing greatly to the sum of social medicine undertaken by the authority. The professional and voluntary workers deserve the highest praise for their efforts.



## DOMICILIARY MIDWIFERY

The staff employed at the end of the year was one non-medical Supervisor and 11 municipal midwives.

The total number of cases attended by them during the year was 550, compared with 580 in 1960. The average number of cases attended by each was 50. Although the doctor was engaged in 97% of the cases he was present at the delivery of only 5% of the cases engaged.

Booking for confinement in hospital is restricted to certain categories of patients, *i.e.*, where there is some obstetrical abnormality, for primiparae who seek admission, for cases where there is some associated medical condition and for those whose home conditions are unsuitable. The supervisor of midwives visits the homes of all who apply on social grounds and there is good co-operation in this direction between the hospital, the general practitioners and the clinics.

Home confinement continues to be the choice of many mothers and 42% of the births occurred in the patient's own home.

For the purposes of midwifery the town is divided into areas to each of which two or more midwives are allocated. For off duty and holidays they relieve one another within the area as far as possible. This ensures that the patient is unlikely to be attended at her confinement by a midwife who is a complete stranger to her.

Besides attending the cases confined at home the midwives have been called upon to nurse where necessary cases of early discharge from hospital. There were 171 such cases during the year, some of which were discharged as early as 4 days after delivery.

Irrespective of whether the doctor is engaged the midwife must make regular ante-natal visits to her patients and 4,187 such visits were made in 1961. After delivery the midwife attends her patient for a minimum of 10 days and for a longer period if circumstances require it.

The midwives are on duty by rota at the ante-natal clinics. This helps to keep them up-to-date in modern methods and also gives them an opportunity of having their clinical findings confirmed.

Midwives working in domiciliary practice are now attending Ante-Natal Clinics run by General Practitioners in their own Surgeries. Owing to the pressure of work it has not been possible to extend this service to more than three General Practitioners. This scheme has been received with enthusiasm by the general practitioners and midwives and it is hoped when staffing conditions permit to extend it further.

At the ante-natal clinics samples of blood were taken, 167 for Wasserman reaction, 246 for the Rhesus factor and 829 for haemoglobin estimation.

### Medical Aid

By the rules of the Central Midwives Board, midwives are required to send for medical aid under conditions and for reasons which are specified. Medical aid was summoned in 214 cases, 25 of which were for conditions arising during the ante-natal period. In 116 cases medical advice was sought for the mother alone, in 38 cases for child alone, and 35 cases for both mother and child. The general practitioner had been engaged in 193 cases.

## **Analgesia and Anaesthesia**

Both Gas and Air Analgesia and Trilene Analgesia are provided by the Department and all the municipal midwives are qualified to administer them.

The outfits are available at the Clinic and they are transported to and from the homes of the patients by the midwife if she has a car, or by the Ambulance Service.

During the year Gas and Air was administered in 339 cases and in 50 cases Trilene was used.

All the midwives are instructed in the use of Pethilorfan and it was administered in 270 cases during 1961.

Two midwives attended a refresher course during the year.

The Authority provides district training for pupil midwives taking Part II of the C.M.B. Course. 8 students received training during the year.

## **Emergency Obstetrical Unit**

By arrangement with the Wigan and Leigh Hospital Management Committee a mobile Obstetrical Unit based on Billinge Hospital is available for cases of obstetrical emergency occurring within the Borough. The unit, composed of an obstetrician and an experienced hospital nurse, along with equipment for blood transfusion, is transported to the home by the Ambulance Service. One call was made upon this service during the year, and had a satisfactory outcome.

## **Care of Premature Infants**

The number of premature infants (*i.e.*, weighing  $5\frac{1}{2}$  lbs. or less at birth) notified during the year was 98 ; of these 18 were born at home and 80 in hospital.

The early care of premature infants born at home is undertaken by the Supervisor and the midwife engaged for the confinement.

The arrangement is that on receiving information of the birth the Supervisor takes over responsibility for the case and the midwife works under her direction. Visits are paid daily or more often if necessary, special attention being given to the feeding and handling of the baby. Special equipment in the form of draught-proof cots with bedding and hot water bottles, an oxygen resuscitator and baby clothing are provided.

Daily record charts are made out for each infant and these are made available to the doctor attending the cases.

The intensive visiting is continued during the first month or until such time as the baby has attained normal standards. By these means the mother is given every opportunity of learning how to handle and tend the infant.

During the year 23 premature babies received this concentrated attention. The results are very good and fully justify the time devoted to them.



There is a premature baby unit at Billinge Hospital under the control of the Consultant Paediatrician. Close liaison is maintained with the Department, especially when babies are about to be discharged to home and specialised nursing is continued where necessary.

### **Retrolental Fibroplasia**

No case was reported during 1961.

### **Neo-natal Cold Injury**

No case was reported during 1961. Each midwife is supplied with a thermometer registering to 70°F. to facilitate the diagnosis of this condition.

### **Ophthalmia Neonatorum**

No case has been notified during the year.

### **Transport of Midwives**

Car allowances are made to eight midwives who use their own motor cars whilst on approved duties. They travelled an aggregate of 16,715 miles in the year.

Midwives without motor transport use the Corporation's bus service or the ambulance service.

### **Maternity Homes**

The Christopher Home, administered by the Wigan and Leigh Hospital Management Committee, is the only Nursing or Maternity Home within the Borough. Six beds are available for maternity cases and during the year there were 46 Wigan births in the Home.

## HEALTH VISITING

Summary of visits during the year 1961 :—

No. of primary visits to births	....	....	....	....	....	....	1,254
„ visits to infants under one year	....	....	....	....	....	....	5,916
„ „ infants over one year and under two years	....	....	....	....	....	....	3,539
„ „ infants over two and under three years	....	....	....	....	....	....	2,923
„ „ infants over three and under four years	....	....	....	....	....	....	2,325
„ „ infants over four and under five years	....	....	....	....	....	....	2,368
„ „ expectant mothers	....	....	....	....	....	....	55
„ „ cases of infectious disease	....	....	....	....	....	....	665
„ „ <i>re</i> deaths under one year	....	....	....	....	....	....	23
„ „ still births	....	....	....	....	....	....	27
„ „ aged persons	....	....	....	....	....	....	1,673

The establishment of Health Visitors is 10, but only 8 were in post at the 31st December, 1961.

Since February 1960, routine screening for phenylketonuria has been carried out by health visitors in child welfare clinics and in the home. Each child born in the borough is given a simple test to detect phenylketonuria, which is known to be one of the causes of brain damage.

The work of these all-purpose social visitors continues to widen in scope and will inevitably increase with the continued increase in the aged population. Emphasis is now being placed on health education ; the problem of the aged, especially those living at home ; and the prevention of breakup of families. Unfortunately staffing difficulties prevent any expansion of the health visiting services at present.

The importance of mothercraft is now being increasingly recognised and its teaching is one of the duties of the Health Visitor. During the year, besides the talks at clinics and in the homes a course of 6 lectures was given to the senior girls in five schools. These proved very successful.

Three student Health Visitors from the Bolton Training School received their practical training in the Department. Wigan sponsored one student during the year, and one Health Visitor attended a post-graduate refresher course.

The weekly Out-patient Paediatric Clinic at Wigan Infirmary is attended by a Health Visitor. (See page 32.)

## THE CHILDREN ACT, 1948

A close liaison exists between the Health Office and the staff of the Children's Department. Weekly visits are made by Assistant Medical Officers of Health to the residential nursery and they are available for consultation and medical examination of all children in the care of the authority.



## **CHILDREN NEGLECTED OR ILL-TREATED IN THEIR OWN HOMES**

The local authority implemented the recommendations contained in circular 78/50 and designated the Medical Officer of Health, as the officer responsible for liaison and co-ordination in matters affecting children neglected or ill-treated in their own homes.

The Council also appointed the Chairmen and Vice-Chairmen of the Children's, Education, Estates and Health Committees to determine questions of a special nature on the subject of the circular at elected representative level.

During the year it has not been found necessary to call this Committee but many cases have been dealt with at officer level with encouraging results. In particular I would acknowledge the active co-operation of Mr. Hughes of the N.S.P.C.C. and the timely help of the W.V.S. who have assisted with the provision of clothes and bedding on many occasions.

## **PREVENTION OF BREAK-UP OF FAMILIES**

A working committee was set up in October, 1961 to deal with this problem. Officials representing all the Social Health and Welfare Services both Local Authority and voluntary attend. The meetings are held at regular intervals to co-ordinate policy and to minimise multiple visiting by social workers which can prove confusing to the family concerned. Liaison is maintained between the members of the committee to effect continued help to the families.

## **HOME NURSING**

The Home Nursing Service has continued to function from the Nurses Home, New Market Street, although we have been no more successful in recruiting resident nurses this year than in previous years. Only the Superintendent and her deputy are resident at the present time.

Patients continue to be visited two or three times daily when necessary and a nurse is on duty 6 – 11 p.m. to give sedatives prescribed by the general practitioner and to make the patients comfortable for the night.

Advantage has been taken of the hospital scheme for admitting patients of long standing illness at regular intervals for a period of six weeks thus temporarily relieving relatives.

There has been a fall in the total number of injections given to 28,150 in 1961 compared with 30,621 in 1960. This decrease is partly due to some penicillin being given orally in cream or liquid form and some penicillin injections are now being given every 3 days instead of daily or twice daily.

During the year, disposable syringes were introduced for use by home nurses.

Over the past five years the number of Home Nursing visits to children has not increased despite the fact that every encouragement is given to Paediatricians and General Practitioners to use the service. The wider use of the domiciliary paediatric nursing service is very much a matter which depends on the outlook of the paediatricians and medical practitioners. In this town there is no shortage of paediatric beds and the prevailing pattern is for domiciliary care to take second place. To this end the re-arrangement and extension of visiting hours to children in hospital has been of considerable help, and provision is made for accommodation in hospital of mothers whose children are in-patients at the hospital.

The fullest co-operation exists between the paediatricians, orthopaedic and E.N.T. surgeons, general practitioners and the Health Department, and there is a full exchange of information regarding sick children prior to their admission to hospital, whilst undergoing treatment and on discharge.

The extra services available, *i.e.*, loan of nursing equipment, laundry service, home help service and "Meals on Wheels" continue to be appreciated by many patients.

During the year the four Austin Seven cars covered 28,923 miles and the average consumption of petrol was 35.1 miles per gallon.

Bicycles are provided and a maintenance allowance is made to a nurse who provides her own autocycle.

The establishment remains as in previous years—one Superintendent, one Deputy Superintendent and eleven nurses, two of whom are male nurses.

The following is a record of work done during 1961 :—

No. of cases on the books on 1st January, 1961	....	....	....	384
No. of new cases during 1961	....	....	....	1,592
No. of visits paid by the nurses	....	....	....	50,851

No. of cases ceased to be visited :—

Now convalescent	....	....	....	452
Removed to hospital	....	....	....	274
Deaths	....	....	....	185
Other reasons	....	....	....	673
			—	1,584

No. of cases remaining on the books on the 31st December, 1961 .... 392

A classification of cases attended during 1961 will be found on pages 41–44.

### Classification of Cases

#### Table 1 — All Ages

[illegible]







**Table 11 — Aged 65 Years or Over**

	1961			1960		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
Tuberculosis, respiratory .....	2	—	2	6	—	6
Tuberculosis, other forms .....	—	—	—	1	3	4
Malignant neoplasms .....	15	12	27	19	16	35
Benign and unspecified neoplasms ....	2	4	6	5	9	14
Diabetes Mellitus .....	5	20	25	5	18	23
Vascular lesions affecting central nervous system .....	25	37	62	33	36	69
Arteriosclerotic and degenerative heart disease .....	107	45	152	101	60	161
Other diseases of circulatory system .....	31	46	77	39	52	91
Diseases of digestive system .....	—	—	—	2	4	6
Pneumonia .....	9	2	11	6	4	10
Bronchitis .....	83	43	126	60	50	110
Other diseases of respiratory system	7	4	11	5	2	7
Rheumatism .....	—	4	4	1	8	9
Arthritis .....	13	11	24	6	14	20
Varicose ulcers .....	3	6	9	2	8	10
Phlebitis .....	—	—	—	—	1	1
General rashes on body .....	—	—	—	2	1	3
Scabies .....	—	—	—	1	—	1
Cellulitis .....	—	—	—	—	1	1
Abscesses, Boils, Carbuncles .....	6	4	10	3	2	5
Bedsores .....	2	1	3	1	5	6
Senility, Constipation, Debility, Neurasthenia .....	33	49	82	30	53	83
Injuries due to falls .....	—	1	1	1	2	3
Fractures .....	1	2	3	2	10	12
Burns .....	—	1	1	—	—	—
Scalds .....	—	1	1	—	2	2
Supra-pubic drainage.....	1	—	1	1	—	1
Prostatectomy .....	8	—	8	7	—	7
Gastrectomy .....	—	—	—	1	—	1
Hysterectomy .....	—	—	—	—	1	1
Cholecystectomy.....	2	6	8	1	2	3
Diseases of the uterus .....	—	42	42	—	50	50
Preparation for x-ray .....	18	18	36	28	35	53
Cataract .....	—	1	1	—	1	1
Herniotomy .....	2	—	2	3	—	3
Laparotomy .....	—	1	1	1	—	1

### Table III (a) — Children Under 5 Years

[illegible]

### Table III (b) — Schoolchildren

[illegible]

### Table IV—Injection Therapy, 1961

Asthma	Adrenalin	....	....	....	....	....	220
Anaemia	Anahaemin, Imferon, Examin, Hepastab,	}					12,297
Neuritis	Riboflavin, Campolon, Forte, Cytamen,						
Rheumatism	Neo-hepatex, Actha						
Bronchitis, Chest Infection	}	Penicillin....	....	....	....	....	2,379
Pneumonia, Catarrh							
Diabetes	Insulin	....	....	....	....	....	6,556
Cardiac	Mersalyl, Mercardon, Thiomerin	....	....	....	....	....	3,843
Cancer	Hormones	....	....	....	....	....	210
Tuberculosis	Streptomycin and Dimycin	....	....	....	....	....	1,659
Narcotics and	}	Morphia, Pethidine, Largactol, Omnipon,					912
Sedatives							
Vaccines	Scopolamine, Novocaine and other sedatives	....	....	....	....	....	73
Anti-Tetanus Serum	....	....	....	....	....	....	1
							28,150

## NURSING EQUIPMENT

The following equipment is available on loan at a nominal charge :—

Hospital Bedsteads	Lifting Poles
Air Beds	Bed Tables
Air Rings	Rubber Sheets
Backrests	Urinals
Bed cradles	Wheelchairs
Bedpans	Crutches
Eneuresis Alarms	Zimmer Lift.

The service is in constant demand and is greatly appreciated.

During the year a Zimmer Patient Lift was purchased for loan under the scheme. It was obtained for a boy suffering from muscular dystrophy who had grown too heavy for his mother to handle alone. The lift is a hydraulic device which enables the patient to be lifted and wheeled around home with the minimum of effort. The Committee decided that in this special case no charge would be made for the loan of the equipment. It has proved an extremely valuable addition to the service.

### Bedding Loan Service

A service to loan certain articles of bedding for the use of bedfast incontinent persons is available.

The patient is supplied with clean bedding—sheets, drawsheets, pillow cases, pyjama jackets—as required.

The soiled articles are collected for laundering and replaced by clean bedding at regular intervals.

A charge of 6d. per week is made for the service.

No. of cases on 1st January, 1961	....	....	....	....	....	4
No. of new cases during the year	....	....	....	....	....	19
No. of cases ceased	....	....	....	....	....	19
No. of cases on 31st December, 1961	....	....	....	....	....	4

## VACCINATION

### Small Pox

The following vaccinations were carried out during 1961 :—

	Under 1 year	1 year	2-4 yrs. inclusive	5-14 yrs. inclusive	Over 15 yrs.	TOTAL
Primary	237	27	12	13	46	335
Re-vaccination	—	—	1	1	30	32
TOTALS	237	27	13	14	76	367

237 children under the age of one year were vaccinated during the year. Comparing this figure with the number of births during the same period, it will be seen that only 19% of the infants were vaccinated.

### Poliomyelitis

Routine vaccination of persons under the age of 40 continued. A further extension of the scheme was introduced in April, 1961, when it was decided to offer a fourth dose of vaccine to children when they enter school, and also to children of five and over already at school who were under the age of twelve. This was because of the greater risk of infection to which school children are exposed.



Details of vaccinations and re-inforcing injections given during the year were :—

(a) Persons completing a course of two injections :			
Children born 1943 to 1960	....	....	3,072
Young persons born 1933 to 1942	....	....	780
Persons born before 1933	....	....	2,563
			<hr/>
			6,415
			<hr/>
(b) Number of persons receiving third injections	....	....	1,580
(c) Number of school children receiving fourth injections	....	....	3,831

### B.C.G. Vaccination

Routine protection of thirteen-year-old school children :—

No. in 13 year age group	....	....	....	....	....	1,260
No. for whom consent was obtained	....	....	....	....	....	808
Percentage of acceptances	....	....	....	....	....	64%
No. of Mantoux-Negative	....	....	....	....	....	723
No. of Mantoux-Positive	....	....	....	....	....	85
Percentage Positive	....	....	....	....	....	10.5
No. Vaccinated	....	....	....	....	....	723
No. who had Chest x-ray	....	....	....	....	....	79
No. where x-ray showed active tuberculosis	....	....	....	....	....	—
No. where x-ray showed lung abnormality requiring further observation	....	....	....	....	....	—

Advantage has been taken of the recent Ministry of Health ruling allowing whole classes to be dealt with, which greatly facilitates the administrative work. As a result a small percentage of the children were aged twelve or fourteen years.

The examination of the vaccination sites revealed no abnormalities. All of those submitted to a post-vaccination skin test had converted to the positive state.

This year's acceptance rate of 64.0% is somewhat lower than that for the previous year (69.0%).

The figure for the positive Mantoux tests gives an indication of the extent to which children are being brought into contact with the germ of tuberculosis. Our percentage, 10.5 compares favourably with that in other urban industrial areas, suggesting that Wigan children are not unduly at risk in this respect.

The Chest Physician has supplied the following information regarding B.C.G. vaccination of Tuberculosis Contacts during 1961 :—

Children under 15 years of age :—

No. of Contacts				B.C.G.
skin patch tested	Positive	Negative	Vaccinated	
160	80	80	86	

125 children were patch tested after B.C.G.—all showed a positive skin reaction.

These figures do not include work carried out amongst hospital staff.



## IMMUNISATION

During 1961 the Standing Medical Advisory Committee of the Ministry of Health issued advice on two alternative schedules for the routine immunisation of children against infectious diseases. Both schedules laid down a comprehensive programme for protection against diphtheria, pertussis, tetanus, poliomyelitis and smallpox in addition to B.C.G. vaccination. Whenever practicable the following schedule (Schedule P) is followed in the Department.

Age	Visit	Vaccine	Injection	Interval
1 to 6 months	1	Diphtheria, pertussis, tetanus 1	1	4 to 6 weeks
	2	Diphtheria, pertussis, tetanus 2	2	4 to 6 weeks
	3	Diphtheria, pertussis, tetanus 3	3	
7 to 10 months	4	Poliomyelitis 1	4	4 weeks
	5	Poliomyelitis 2	5	
15 to 18 months	6	Poliomyelitis 3	6	
18 to 21 months	7	Diphtheria, pertussis, tetanus 4	7	
Smallpox during first 2 years but preferably at 4 to 5 months				
School entry		Poliomyelitis 4, diphtheria, tetanus		
8 to 12 years		Diphtheria, tetanus, smallpox re-vaccination		
Over 12 years		B.C.G.		

Although the local health authority expend time and money on joining in with the national advertising campaigns, the Health Visitor with her personal approach is the spearhead of the drive for a high level of primary protection against Diphtheria and Whooping Cough, while the school nurse is in a unique position to coax the reluctant parent of the primary school child to agree to the child receiving a booster dose of prophylactic.

Inoculations carried out during 1961 :—

### Diphtheria

	M. & C.W. Clinic	School Clinic	Private Doctors	TOTAL
Primary	11	562	9	582
Re-inoculation	3	1442	2	1447
	14	2004	11	2029

### Combined Diphtheria and Whooping Cough

Re-inoculation	47	—	10	57
----------------	----	---	----	----

### Combined Diphtheria, Whooping Cough and Tetanus

Primary	657	—	271	928
Re-inoculation	28	—	14	42
	685	—	285	970

Approximately 47% of the school and pre-school children in the Borough have been immunised against Diphtheria. This cannot be regarded as adequate and we must strive for a figure of at least 80%.

Parental apathy is our greatest enemy. Young parents have never seen cases of diphtheria and so the wholesome fear which it engendered in the time of the greatest epidemic incidence has disappeared. Pre-occupation of the medical staff, who have been extensively engaged on other immunological procedures may be to some extent responsible for the relatively unsatisfactory figures in the lower age groups.

## **AMBULANCE SERVICE**

### **Introduction**

The Service continues to expand and in 1961 almost 50,000 patients were carried. The total annual vehicle mileage was 130,182. To meet the growing needs of the service the fleet was increased by one vehicle and two additional driver/attendants were engaged. The vehicle, a Duple/Bedford designed to carry up to 15 sitting cases, is proving invaluable particularly for the conveyance of psychiatric patients daily to and from Billinge Hospital.

Year	Average No. of patients carried per mile	Average mileage per patient
1956	0.27	3.6
1957	0.28	3.4
1958	0.33	3.0
1959	0.35	2.9
1960	0.35	2.8
1961	0.38	2.6

This table gives a clear indication of the operational pattern of the service from 1956.

### **Ambulance Station**

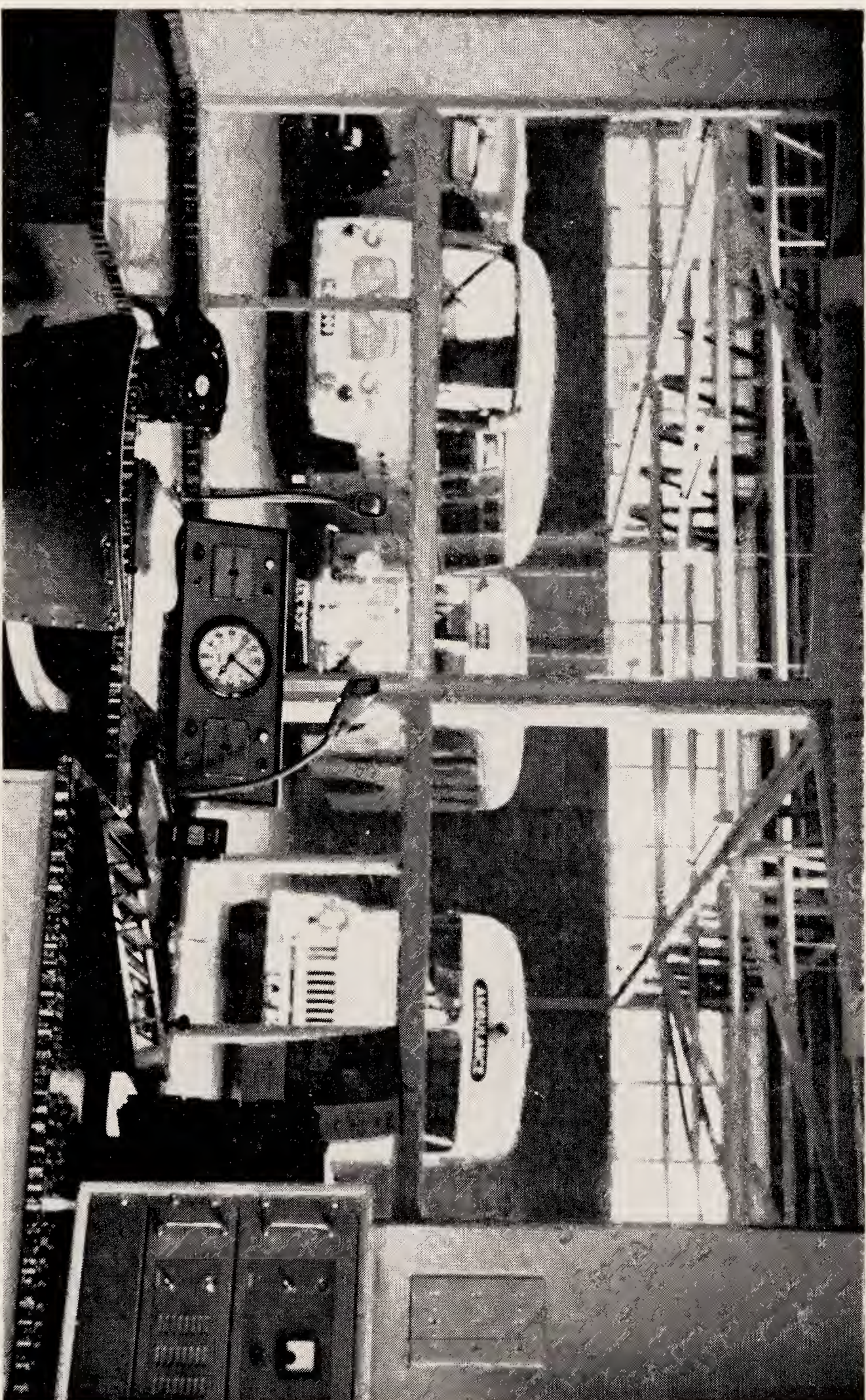
The new ambulance station in Pottery Road was officially opened on the 30th August, 1961. The new building provides garage accommodation for all the ambulance vehicles, the home nursing cars, the departmental car and two load carrying vehicles. There is a workshop with facilities for minor day to day maintenance and repair work, control room, offices, staff rooms, a lecture room and kitchen. The building was designed with the further expansion of the ambulance service in view.

### **Personnel**

The establishment of the Service at the 31st December, 1961 was as follows :—

- 1 Superintendent.
- 1 Assistant Superintendent.
- 1 Clerk Storekeeper.
- 4 Control Assistants.
- 25 Driver/Attendants.
- 1 Handyman.





AMBULANCE STATION

CONTROL DESK AND GARAGE







## Maintenance of Vehicles

All maintenance and repairs necessary to keep the fleet fully serviceable have been carried out satisfactorily.

### AGE OF VEHICLES IN YEARS

Under one year	One to two years	Two to three years	Three to four years	Four to five years	Five to six years	Six to seven years	Seven to eight years	Eight to nine years	Nine to ten years	10 years and over
2	—	1	—	1	—	1	1	1	1	2

### TOTAL MILEAGE RUN BY EACH VEHICLE

Registered No.	Year of Purchase	Make	Type	MILEAGE		Total Mileage Run
				1960	1961	
JP. 8800	1950	Bedford	Ambulance	13247	9811	102541
JP. 8879	1951	Bedford	Duel. Pur	13662	13354	178947
JP. 9609	1952	Bedford	Ambulance	13475	10819	160852
AEK. 319	1953	Austin	Car	20036	1162	181412
AEK. 432	1953	Bedford	Duel Pur.	16797	15430	137961
AJP. 500	1954	Daimler	Ambulance	9021	9829	81176
BJP. 947	1955	Bedford	Ambulance	15922	16349	86830
DEK. 828	1957	Bedford	Ambulance	13146	17015	46809
EJP. 800	1959	Bedford	Ambulance	11775	12137	28267
GJP. 564	1961	Morr. Oxf.	Car	—	17250	17250
HEK. 999	1961	Bedford	Sitting Cases	—	7026	7026

## Petrol and Oil Consumption

Vehicle	Make	Reg. No.	Mileage	CONSUMPTION		AVERAGE	
				Petrol Galls.	Oil Pints	M.P.G.	M.P.P.
1	Bedford	AEK 432	15430	1169	89	13.2	173.3
2	Bedford	JP 9609	10819	835	32	12.9	338.1
3	Daimler	AJP 500	9829	1175	65	8.3	152.7
4	Bedford	EJP 800	12137	1107	42	11.0	289.0
5	Bedford	DEK 828	17015	1321	169	12.8	100.7
6	Bedford	BJP 947	16349	1287	33	12.7	495.4
7	Bedford	JP 8879	13354	1037	74	12.8	150.4
8	Bedford	JP 8800	9811	745	31	13.1	316.5
9	Bedford	HEK 999	7026	497	13	14.1	540.4
Car	Morris	GJP 564	17250	692	13	25.0	132.7
Car	Austin	AEK 319	1162	78	15	15.0	77.5
TOTALS			130182	9943	576	13.2	225.0

## Summary of Work Undertaken During the Year 1961

CLASSIFICATION	MILES	PATIENTS
SECTION 27 PATIENTS :		
Street Accidents (including all road users) ...	971	272
Other Street Accidents ... ..	294	84
Works Accidents ... ..	324	92
Home Accidents ... ..	775	184
Recreation Accidents ... ..	692	161
Unclassified Injuries ... ..	572	149
Street Illnesses ... ..	436	130
Home Illnesses ... ..	312	69
Works Illnesses ... ..	225	60
Other Illnesses ... ..	271	73
Maternity ... ..	5,792	573
Authorised Officers ... ..	2,371	223
Infectious ... ..	88	15
Deceased ... ..	230	42
Admissions, Discharges, Transfers and Clinic Cases	96,660	28,771
Service and Fruitless ... ..	1,055	—
SECTION 27 PATIENTS—RECOVERABLE :		
Lancashire County Council ... ..	149	19
Other Authorities ... ..	466	33
National Coal Board... ..	58	9
OTHER RE-CHARGEABLE WORK :		
Welfare Services ... ..	2,905	910
Mentally Sub-normal Children ... ..	14,644	17,485
Midwives and Gas and Air Analgesia ... ..	840	—
Mental Health ... ..	52	—
TOTALS ... ..	130,182	49,354

## **Radio Telecommunications**

The radio telephone equipment which had been in use since 1953 was replaced when the new station opened. The new equipment has a greater range and is working very satisfactorily.

## **Civil Defence**

The Ambulance and First Aid Section of the division remains active but difficulty is experienced in attracting new members.

Two members of the peace-time ambulance staff attended a potential Officer's Course at the Home Office Civil Defence School, Falfield, during the year.



## PREVENTION OF ILLNESS, CARE AND AFTER - CARE

### Health Education

Each month 2,000 copies of the journal " Better Health " are distributed in the district.

Classes for expectant mothers are held each week at the Central Clinic where talks and demonstrations are given on Mothercraft, general hygiene and allied subjects. Expectant mothers receive talks on pregnancy, childbirth and the post-natal period. Any relevant literature is distributed. The appropriate exercises are carried out by those attending the classes who also receive instruction in gas and air analgesia. The syllabus in fact prepares the inexperienced woman for the great experience of motherhood.

Mothercraft lectures have been given by health visitors at senior girls schools. These have been most popular with the pupils.

The efforts to inform the public of the dangers of smoking have continued, despite the hardening of opposition and general apathy. One lecture has been given to senior scholars on the dangers of cigarettes. Whilst it is hoped to give more such lectures it must be reiterated that only by the example of respected adults will the rising generation avoid tobacco addiction.

The struggle for clean food goes on and there are encouraging signs that the education of the public and food handlers has not been without reward.

Each month a " Health Education " topic is selected for special emphasis. The topic usually has seasonal relevance e.g. Air Pollution in November, The Old Folks for December. During the month posters and displays relating to the topic of the month are distributed to the clinics and there is a permanent display in the Central Clinic. Doctors, nurses, midwives and health visitors use the informal chat as a means of putting over some important factors of the current topic. Welfare Officers and public health inspectors also assist in educating the public.

Much valuable help and information about all topics is received from the Central Council for Health Education and the Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents. Subscriptions are paid each year by the borough council to these two bodies.

### Convalescence

During the year 1961 no arrangements were made for short-term care under Section 28 of the National Health Service Act, 1946.



## Venereal Disease

The treatment of Venereal Diseases is the responsibility of the Hospital service, and in Wigan the Clinic is under the direction of Dr. Philip S. Silver, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.

NO. OF WIGAN CASES DEALT WITH FOR THE FIRST TIME AT THE V.D.

### TREATMENT CENTRES

	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959	1960	1961
Syphilis	11	4	11	12	7	8	7	3	5	3
Gonorrhoea	9	13	10	13	10	6	14	8	12	21
Other Conditions	41	59	36	39	37	31	43	32	54	49
TOTAL ....	61	76	57	64	54	45	64	43	71	73

The Health Committee have continued their arrangements whereby the V.D. Orderly of the Royal Albert Edward Infirmary undertakes the duties of Almoner.

Efforts are made to persuade persons who are a source of infection to attend for treatment at the Centre. Contact is made with patients who fail to attend for treatment with a view to stressing the importance of continued attendance at the Clinic. The work done by the Almoner has been found to produce satisfactory results.

The following is an extract from the Almoner's report for the year 1961 :—  
Total number of contacts persuaded to attend were :—

	Male	Female
Syphilis ....	1	3
Gonorrhoea ....	—	7
Non-Venereal ....	1	—

Patients failing to attend for treatment are the biggest problem and 53 letters were sent to try and persuade them to attend. Of these 41 reported for further investigation and treatment. The total number of patients remaining on the register at 31st December, 1961, was 79, a reduction of 38 from the previous year's total. The reduction was mainly due to the discharge after follow-up of old Syphilis cases.

## Tuberculosis

Statistical information regarding the prevalence of and mortality from tuberculosis will be found in that section of the Report dealing with infectious diseases.

The Tuberculosis Visitor is a full-time member of the Local Authority Health Visiting Staff, the work of the health visitor being divided between attendance with the Chest Physician at the Dispensary and visiting patients in their homes.

During the year, 2108 home visits were paid by the tuberculosis health visitor.

The number of new contacts examined during the past three years was as follows :—

1959			1960			1961		
Adults	Children	Total	Adults	Children	Total	Adults	Children	Total
101	138	239	116	127	243	100	110	210
Contacts of positive cases under supervision, 31st December, 1961							....	274
Contacts under supervision after B.C.G. inoculation							....	447
The average number of contacts per case of pulmonary T.B. is as follows :—								
					1959	1960	1961	
Tuberculosis Notifications : Pulmonary					....	56	50	34
Other forms					....	9	3	2
No. of contacts per case (pulmonary only)					....	4.3	4.9	6.2

All cases of death from respiratory tuberculosis which remained un-notified during life are the subject of special contact investigations.

The responsibility of the Council for providing care and after-care services at present is being discharged through a voluntary Care Committee. The aims of this Committee may be stated as follows :—

1. To provide extra nourishments, nursing utensils, wheel chairs, etc.
2. To help in providing extra clothing needed by the patients, especially when they go into sanatorium and on their return home.
3. To visit and give friendly advice.
4. To assist in educating public opinion in matters of health in regard to Tuberculosis.
5. To give assistance in providing tools in cases where tuberculous persons entering into employment are not so assisted by the Ministry of Labour.

The Chest Physician acts as Honorary Medical Officer to this Committee.

During the year arrangements were continued for organised classes in all manner of light craft work and sewing. These were well attended, although we lack a suitable building where fixed equipment can be erected.

## Housing of Tuberculosis Cases

In appropriate cases recommendations for re-housing are made when adequate isolation cannot be ensured where there is a case of Infectious Tuberculosis. Visits were paid to a large number of dwellings following reports of suspected tuberculosis and a thorough investigation was carried out in each case, but no cases were re-housed during 1961.

In every instance contact was made with the Consultant Chest Physician who gave every assistance in arriving at a decision as to the degree of priority to be given in each case submitted to the Committee.

## Rehabilitation

Very few known sputum positive cases are actually employed in permanent positions, and constant supervision by the Tuberculosis Health Visitor ensures that these few do not become a danger to other susceptible groups.

Persons who are fit for light work are referred to the Disablement Re-settlement Officer with suitable recommendation.

Patients have been admitted for training and colonization at Barrowmore Hall, the local health authority undertaking part maintenance.



## **Bacille Calmette Guerin Vaccination**

Full information concerning B.C.G. vaccination of contacts and school leavers is given on page 46.

## **Mental Disorder**

Details of work under this section are given under Mental Health Service. Page 57.

## **Other Illnesses**

Close liaison between the health visitors and the social welfare officers engaged on work amongst the physically handicapped under the Council's scheme ensures that advice and help are readily available to those in need once their condition becomes known to the Department.

## **Meals on Wheels Service**

A Scheme (within the Council's proposals under Section 28 of the National Health Service Act, 1946) for the delivery of a mid-day meal to individuals unable, because of illness or physical disability to provide their own has been in operation since May, 1951.

The meals were previously supplied by the School Meals Service but since 14th April, 1960 they have been prepared at the Welfare Home, Frog Lane.

The food is served in individual covered containers. The charge per meal is 1s. 4d., but in necessitous cases it is reduced to 1s.

12,631 meals were provided on 254 days during the year.

A maximum of three meals per week are provided in each case and the service is greatly appreciated.

Besides its value in preventing malnutrition, a regular visit by an interested voluntary worker and a member of the staff of the Department has a beneficial effect on the morale of the recipients who feel they are not forgotten and can ask for help if they require it. In this connection I must recognise the valuable work done by the members of the W.V.S., who regularly accompany the drivers and deliver the meals.

## DOMESTIC HELP SERVICE

Two helps are employed full time and at the end of the year 93 part-time helps were on the register.

Again there has been a considerable increase in the number of families availing themselves of the Service. During 1961 domestic help was provided in 886 cases—57 maternity, 14 tuberculous, 788 chronic sick including aged and infirm and 27 others—compared with a total of 813 in 1960.

The Organiser has a Visitor and a part-time clerk to assist in the organisation of the Service.

### Charges for Service

The standard charge operating during the year was 4s. 0d. per hour but in very few cases was the recipient called upon to pay the full cost. All cases whose family income is such that they must ask for relief are assessed according to a scale agreed by the Health Committee. A revised scale of assessment was introduced during the year. In almost all cases persons in receipt of National Assistance Benefit are now entitled to the service free of charge. The aged and chronic sick form the bulk of the cases helped by the Service.

The Home Help, Home Nursing, Meals on Wheels and the Bedding Loan Service still form the backbone of the Department's effort to maintain the aged in their own homes and so relieve the pressure on Part III Hostel beds. The rising expenditure on these services must, therefore, be looked upon as an economy in the long run.



## **MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES**

The year 1961 was the first full year of operation of the main provisions of the Mental Health Act, 1959. The trend towards the informal admission of patients to hospital and greater emphasis on community care has continued to develop and because of the co-operation between the General Practitioner, Hospital Services and the Local Health Authority very few difficulties have been encountered.

The revised proposals for the care and after-care of Mentally Disordered persons now provide for these services under Section 28 of the National Health Service Act, 1946. An adequate number of Junior Training Centre places exists at Hope School and an Adult Training Centre in premises formerly used as Marylebone School is being used as a temporary measure prior to the opening of a purpose-built centre for which plans are now being prepared. The new proposals also enable the authority to provide residential accommodation for mentally disordered persons. A scheme for a hostel to accommodate up to six persons is at present under consideration and this will be proceeded with when the need arises. In the meantime Mental Welfare Officers continue their normal case work and community care activities. These are services which must be encouraged to grow and develop gradually and every care is being taken to ensure that this takes place.

### **Administration**

The Health Committee is responsible for the control of this service and the Medical Officer of Health is the Executive Officer. The establishment provides for one Senior Mental Welfare Officer and three Mental Welfare Officers but unfortunately for a great part of the year we were below strength.

Six doctors are approved under Section 28(2) of the Mental Health Act, 1959, for the purpose of making medical recommendations in respect of mentally disordered patients. These are the Medical Officer of Health, Dr. A. Sippert, Dr. R. McL. Bain, Dr. H. Coates, Dr. S. M. A. Malik and Dr. D. M. Mather.

### **Mental Subnormality**

At the end of the year a total of 110 mentally subnormal persons were under the care of the local authority. Regular home visits are made and in addition to giving advice to the families a great deal of effort is made by the Mental Welfare Officers to help seek employment in suitable cases.

During the year four persons who had been in hospital on an informal basis took their discharge. One is satisfactorily placed in employment but the other three are not working and are creating some problems for the Mental Welfare Officers.

The difficulty in obtaining permanent hospital care still exists, but admission was arranged for five patients during the year. It has also been possible to obtain short term care in six cases, which has given relief to the parents. In addition arrangements were made for one person to be admitted to a local authority hostel. One mentally sub-normal youth was admitted to hospital for psychiatric treatment.

## **Mental Illness**

The department continues to deal with all matters relating to prevention, care and after-care of persons suffering from mental illness. After the 1st November, 1960, when the new admission procedures under the Mental Health Act, 1959 became operative, there was no immediate apparent change in the pattern of the service. The trend towards informal admission to hospital continues and in this and all other aspects of the service the co-operation with Hospital Consultants and General Practitioners is invaluable.

Close contact is maintained with patients in hospital. Mental Welfare Officers visit patients in Billinge Hospital regularly and where necessary maintain contact with the home and see that the patient's domestic arrangements are properly protected. Many problems of housing, financial stress and marital difficulties are tackled whilst the patient is in hospital, thus easing his return to the community. This, together with the regular discussion regarding all aspects of the patients' welfare at the Case Conferences, has done much to bridge the gap between the patient in hospital and his after-care in the community. 230 visits were made to patients in hospital and 225 visits relating to the welfare of such patients.

Mental Welfare Officers maintain a 24-hour "on call" service for arranging urgent admissions to hospital. The Senior Mental Welfare Officer attends the psychiatric clinic each week at Wigan Infirmary and obtains the social history in respect of all patients attending from the County Borough of Wigan. Where necessary a Mental Welfare Officer accompanies the patient to the clinic.

## **Prevention**

Many cases of potential breakdown are referred to the department and it has been found that a satisfactory solution of social problems has been instrumental in averting mental illness.

A close liaison exists between the medical practitioners and mental health staff in dealing with stresses and situations within the family at an early stage. Considerable success is being achieved without the need for admission to hospital and many patients continue to lead a useful life in the community whilst receiving out-patient treatment and supportive case-work from the mental health staff.

Every effort is made to secure the closest co-operation between the mental health staff and other social workers including welfare officers, health visitors, child care officers, probation officers and officers of the housing department.

Help has also been received from some voluntary associations particularly the W.V.S., who have given great help with clothing, and the Soroptomist Club of Wigan.



## After Care

Close liaison is maintained with the hospitals and the mental health staff attend weekly conferences with the Consultant Psychiatrist to the Wigan area when all matters relating to the welfare of the patients are discussed. These sessions are held at Billinge Hospital, and have proved to be of particular benefit in formulating after-care measures at an early stage and thereby facilitating the return of the patient to the community.

All patients on discharge from hospital are visited by the case-worker, and every endeavour is made to obtain the co-operation of the relatives and help them to understand the patients' difficulties. Patients are encouraged to keep their appointments at the after-care clinic at Billinge Hospital where necessary.

The department co-operates with the Ministry of Labour and employers in cases where the question of employment arises.

## Account of Work Undertaken in the Community

### MENTAL ILLNESS :

Patients notified as mentally ill	....	....	....	....	....	168
Dealt with as follows :						
Section 25, Mental Health Act, 1959	....	....	....	....	....	4
Section 26, Mental Health Act, 1959	....	....	....	....	....	—
Section 29, Mental Health Act, 1959	....	....	....	....	....	49
Informal admissions, Mental Health Act, 1959	....	....	....	....	....	93
Care and supervision in the Community	....	....	....	....	....	17
No action	....	....	....	....	....	5
						<hr/> 168 <hr/>
Total number of visits to patients requiring care and supervision						89
Total number of visits to patients requiring after-care	....	....				728
Total number of patients requiring after-care	....	....	....			212

### MENTAL SUBNORMALITY :

Number of patients in hospital, including special hospital accommodation at 31.12.61.	....	....	....	....	....	93
Number of patients under Community Care at 31.12.61.	....	....				110
Number of patients at Junior Training Centre	....	....	....			43
Number of patients at Adult Training Centre	....	....	....			12
Number of patients at Special Care Unit	....	....	....	....		7
Number of patients awaiting admission to hospital at 31.12.61.	....					2

### COMMUNITY CARE AND OTHER WORK OF MENTAL WELFARE OFFICERS :

Total number of domiciliary visits during the year	....	....				2100
Total number of visits to Junior Training Centre	....	....	....			38
Total number of visits to Adult Training Centre	....	....	....			145
Total number of visits to Special Care Unit	....	....	....	....		50
Attendances at Billinge Hospital Case Conferences	....	....	....			63
Visits to patients in hospital	....	....	....	....	....	230
Visits relating to the welfare of patients in hospital	....	....				225
Attendances at Psychiatric Clinic	....	....	....	....	....	38
Attendances at Mental Health Review Tribunal	....	....				1
Special reports for hospitals regarding subnormal patients	....					17
Social Histories for hospitals and at psychiatric clinics	....	....				158

## TRAINING OF THE MENTALLY HANDICAPPED

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### TRAINING CENTRE, HOPE SCHOOL

This Training Centre, which was one of the first purpose built junior training centres to be erected after the passing of the National Health Service Act, 1946, opened in 1954. The staff consists of a Supervisor, Deputy Supervisor, Four Assistant Supervisors, and One Trainee Supervisor. In addition, one full-time guide help and one part-time guide help are employed to assist with the care of the trainees both at the Centre and whilst travelling between the Centre and home.

The Centre has places for 69 trainees most of whom are residents of the Borough. The remainder, approximately  $\frac{1}{3}$  of those attending, are children from Lancashire County Health Division No. 8. Trainees from Wigan Borough and from the Standish area are conveyed to the Centre by ambulance but the others are brought in by coach. A mid-day meal is provided and all children under the age of 16 years receive  $\frac{1}{3}$  pint of pasteurised milk a day.

All trainees are examined on entry by a medical officer who also attends the Centre periodically for routine medical inspection. In appropriate cases the re-assessment of mental ability is carried out. Arrangements for dental treatment are made through the School Dental Service and a school nurse visits the Centre twice weekly to attend to minor ailments.

The classes were re-organised following the transfer of the senior boys to Marylebone Training Centre. There are now junior, intermediate and senior groups and the new arrangement works well.

Instruction has been given in the following subjects :—  
Speech training; sense training; percussion band; singing; music and movement; physical training; simple folk dancing; personal hygiene and habit training. Certain of the children are taught numbers, letters, telling the time and money values.

Shell craft has been added to the subjects taught to the intermediate class. It has proved very popular and helpful as it stimulates creative ability and improves manual dexterity. During the year the standard of handwork of this group has improved beyond all expectations.

The senior girls do handloom weaving, needlework, country dancing and receive instruction in all domestic duties and housecraft. Unfortunately many of this group, of whom there are now 20 over the age of sixteen, have reached a stage where they need to progress to a senior training centre away from the atmosphere of school into one of work. This would undoubtedly help to make them more self-reliant.



## Other Activities

Probably the most enjoyable outing to date was the day spent touring North Wales. We had not previously travelled so far afield with our charges, but this day proved to be most successful.

Once again we are indebted to Mr. H. Jackson, Coach Proprietor, of Spring View, Ince, who kindly provided transport for the children to tour Blackpool Illuminations.

Many parents and friends attended an open day held in September. They were able to see the children at work in the classrooms. The handwork was on display, and a large number of orders were given.

## Training of Students

During the year two students from the National Association for Mental Health Training Course for Supervisors in Manchester have done practical training in the Centre.

Ages of trainees attending the Centre during the year :—

		6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16-30	Total
M.	....	—	1	1	2	1	2	2	1	2	5	6	23
F.	....	1	2	2	1	2	1	3	4	6	1	20	43

The following is an extract from the attendance register :—

			Borough.	County.	Total
No. of children on the register at 1st Jan., 1961	....		47	18	65
No. of admissions during the year	....	....	3	4	7
No. of children ceased to attend	....	....	4	2	6
No. of children remaining on the register at 31st December, 1961	....	....	46	20	66
Average daily attendance during the year			40	16	56

## MARYLEBONE TRAINING CENTRE

Marylebone Training Centre for Adult Male Trainees is housed in premises formerly known as Marylebone School to which certain adaptations had been carried out. There are now eighteen senior trainees under the supervision of Mr. E. Hilton, who transferred from Hope School to become Senior Craft Instructor at the new Centre, and another Craft Instructor. The aim at Marylebone is to simulate as near as possible the conditions in open employment. The centre is open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday to Friday inclusive and closes only on three weeks each year in addition to Public Holidays.

There were numerous visitors to the Centre during the year including the Permanent Secretary to the Ministry of Health and all were impressed by the standard of work being achieved.

In addition to carpentry, work is now being undertaken for the National Coal Board and a local engineering firm. We are extremely indebted to these concerns for the confidence which they have shown in the ability of the trainees to turn out first class work.

Initially all the trainees were transported to the centre but since June, 1961, four have made their own way by public transport.

A mid-day meal is usually provided through the School Meals Service but during holidays when this service is not available the meals are prepared at Douglas Bank House.

The centre is used by Borough and County Trainees and details of attendances during 1961 are given below.

	Borough.	County.	Total.
Number of trainees on register at 1st January, 1961	7	6	13
Number of admissions during 1961	6	—	6
Number of trainees ceasing to attend	1	—	1
Number of trainees on register at 31st Dec., 1961	12	6	18
Average attendance during the year	10	5	15

## SPECIAL CARE UNIT

Facilities are provided at Scarisbrick Street Baptist Church to ease the burden of parents of mentally defective children who are too young or too low grade to benefit by instruction in the Training Centre and also to enable the mother to attend shopping and other outdoor matters.

The unit is open Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday afternoons each week between 1-30 and 4-30. Between 5 and 6 children regularly attend and are under the care of two paid helpers. No charge is made to the parents of children attending.





INDUSTRIAL WORK AT MARYLEBONE TRAINING CENTRE





## **CO-ORDINATION OF HEALTH SERVICES**

No changes have been found necessary during the year in the machinery for co-ordination of the three branches of the Health Services in this area.

There is plenty of good will at all levels and the Liaison Committee mentioned in my earlier reports has held regular meetings.

### **Major Accident Organisation**

In the event of a major catastrophe it is essential that all those officers and services who will inevitably be involved shall be aware of the resources, commitments and liabilities of each other and that pre-arranged conventions governing the alerting of the services shall be widely known. To achieve this the co-operation of ambulance, fire, hospital, police and welfare services, both statutory and voluntary, in the County Borough and the surrounding area have been obtained. The Department has published in booklet form, comprehensive schemes drawn up and co-ordinated by officers of the various authorities involved. These schemes are reviewed annually and amendments made in the light of experience.





*Section IV*

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**Prevalence of  
and  
Control over  
Infectious Disease**

## PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES

There were 1608 notified cases of Measles, more than half occurring in the months of March, April and May.

The number of cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis notified was 34 compared with 50 in 1960.

No cases of Whooping Cough were notified.

25 cases of Scarlet Fever were notified.

For the ninth year in succession there was no notified case of Diphtheria.

2 cases of Paralytic Poliomyelitis were notified, both under school age.

During the routine investigation of contacts of a case of typhoid fever outside the Borough, a Wigan schoolboy was found to be carrying a strain of S. Typhi. Extensive investigations failed to reveal any connection between the two cases and the source remained unidentified.

### NOTIFICATIONS

CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE NOTIFIED DURING THE YEAR 1961.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASE	At all Ages	CASES NOTIFIED								
		AGE GROUPS								
		under 1	1 and under 3	3 and under 5	5 and under 10	10 and under 15	15 and under 25	25 and under 45	45 and under 65	65 and over
Acute Encephalitis, Infective	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis: Paralytic	2	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Non-Paralytic	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Diphtheria and Memb. Croup	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dysentery ... ..	10	—	5	1	1	—	1	—	2	—
Enteric or Typhoid Fever ...	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas ... ..	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Food Poisoning ... ..	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Malaria (contracted abroad) ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles ... ..	1608	66	432	499	581	28	2	—	—	—
Meningococcal Infection ... ..	3	1	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia ... ..	4	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	1	—
Puerperal Pyrexia ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever ... ..	25	—	1	7	15	1	1	—	—	—
Tuberculosis : Pulmonary ...	34	—	2	—	—	—	6	8	13	5
Other Forms ... ..	2	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—
Whooping Cough ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTALS... ..	1692	69	442	507	600	29	13	10	17	5

### Analysis of Notifications by Months, 1961

DISEASE	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	April	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Totals
Acute Encephalitis : Infective ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis : Paralytic ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	2
Non-Paralytic ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Diphtheria and Memb. Croup ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dysentery ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	1	1	—	6	—	10
Enteric or Typhoid Fever ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1
Erysipelas ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Food Poisoning ... ..	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
Malaria (contracted abroad) ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles ... ..	31	72	337	742	259	125	27	4	—	4	2	3	1608
Meningococcal Infection ... ..	—	1	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3
Ophthalmia Neonatorum ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia ... ..	—	1	1	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	4
Puerperal Pyrexia ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever ... ..	—	3	5	3	3	3	—	1	2	1	4	—	25
Tuberculosis : Pulmonary ... ..	3	3	—	3	1	5	2	2	5	4	4	2	34
Other Forms ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	2
Whooping Cough ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	34	80	344	753	264	135	32	9	8	10	18	5	1692

### Comparative Notifications for the Past Ten Years

DISEASE	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959	1960	1961
Acute Encephalitis : Infective ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—
Acute Poliomyelitis : Paralytic ... ..	2	5	—	1	—	5	1	3	—	2
Non-Paralytic ... ..	1	1	—	2	3	1	1	—	—	—
Diphtheria and Memb. Croup ... ..	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dysentery ... ..	1	1	106	9	64	63	9	12	8	10
Enteric or Typhoid Fever ... ..	—	2	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1
Erysipelas ... ..	9	8	5	4	3	—	3	1	2	1
Food Poisoning ... ..	—	3	1	3	14	8	6	4	—	2
Malaria (contracted abroad) ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Measles ... ..	539	1219	271	1400	96	721	582	488	41	1608
Meningococcal Infection ... ..	—	—	1	1	—	—	1	2	1	3
Ophthalmia Neonatorum ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia ... ..	69	28	24	19	12	14	13	48	2	4
Puerperal Pyrexia ... ..	1	—	2	2	1	4	—	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever ... ..	44	180	155	44	44	25	20	25	47	25
Tuberculosis : Pulmonary ... ..	56	67	81	55	46	61	36	56	50	34
Other Forms ... ..	15	16	7	12	7	2	9	9	3	2
Whooping Cough ... ..	29	278	55	89	133	38	10	63	20	—
	768	1808	708	1641	423	943	692	711	176	1692



## Formal Notifications

## Cases Coming to the Notice of the Medical Officer of Health Otherwise than by Formal Notification

[illegible]

# Notifications and Deaths in Wards

WARDS	NOTIFICATIONS			DEATHS		
	Pulmonary Tuberculosis	Other forms of Tuberculosis	TOTALS	Pulmonary Tuberculosis	Other forms of Tuberculosis	TOTALS
No. 1—St. George ...	1	—	1	—	—	—
No. 2—Lindsay ...	1	—	1	—	—	—
No. 3—St. Catherine ...	2	—	2	—	—	—
No. 4—St. Patrick ...	4	1	5	1	—	1
No. 5—St. Thomas ..	—	—	—	—	—	—
No. 6—Poolstock ...	—	—	—	—	—	—
No. 7—Victoria ...	—	—	—	—	—	—
No. 8—St. Andrew ...	6	—	6	—	—	—
No. 9—Swinley ...	2	1	3	2	—	2
No. 10—All Saints ...	—	—	—	—	—	—
No. 11—West Pemberton	3	—	3	—	—	—
No. 12—North "	5	—	5	1	—	1
No. 13—Central "	8	—	8	3	—	3
No. 14—South "	2	—	2	—	1	1
TOTALS ...	34	2	36	7	1	8

### New Cases and Mortality During 1961

AGE PERIODS :	NEW CASES				DEATHS			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0— ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1— ... ..	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5— ... ..	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
15— ... ..	4	3	—	—	—	—	—	—
25— ... ..	4	3	1	—	—	—	—	—
45— ... ..	11	1	—	—	6	—	—	—
65— ... ..	4	1	—	—	—	—	1	—
75— ... ..	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
TOTALS ... ..	26	8	2	—	7	—	1	—

The number of deaths from Pulmonary Tuberculosis was 7, compared with 9 in 1960, and 9 in 1959. One death from other tubercular infections occurred during the year, against 0 in 1960, and 1 in 1959.

The rates are as follows :—

Pulmonary Tuberculosis	....	....	0.09 per 1,000 of population
Other Tuberculous Diseases	....	....	0.01 „

### Comparative Statistics, 1957 to 1961

#### Cases Notified

	1957	1958	1959	1960	1961
Pulmonary	61	36	56	50	34
Other forms of tuberculosis	2	9	9	3	2
TOTALS	63	45	65	53	36

#### Deaths

	1957	1958	1959	1960	1961
Pulmonary	13	10	9	9	7
Other forms of tuberculosis	—	1	1	—	1
TOTALS	13	11	10	9	8

#### Death Rates

	1957	1958	1959	1960	1961
Pulmonary	0.16	0.12	0.11	0.11	0.09
Other forms of tuberculosis	0.00	0.01	0.01	0.00	0.01
TOTALS	0.16	0.13	0.12	0.11	0.10



## DISINFECTION

Arrangements have been made to use the old disinfestor at the Welfare Home, Frog Lane, for the disinfection of bedding, etc., which has been associated with cases of certain infectious diseases. The disinfestor at the Royal Albert Edward Infirmary is also available if required.

### Distribution of Disinfectants

Disinfestants and disinfectants of known potency are provided free to the occupiers of houses where infestation or infectious disease has occurred, and in cases where there are exceptional circumstances. Other persons who desire supplies are charged a small amount to meet the cost of the disinfectant.

Information on the correct use of these agents is given by the public health inspectors.



*Section V*

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**National Assistance Act, 1948**

*Part III*

**Welfare Services**



## ADMINISTRATION

The Authority's Welfare Services, under the National Assistance Act, 1948, continue to be controlled by the Health Committee.

The total number of staff employed on Welfare Services at 31st December, 1961, was 95, made up as follows :—

Administrative and Clerical (including persons in charge of Homes) ....	16
Home Staffs (other than persons in charge) ....	75
Staff employed at Social and Handicraft Centres (including Occupational Therapist) ....	4
	<hr/>
	95
	<hr/>

## RESIDENTIAL ACCOMMODATION

The following table shows the numbers of aged persons provided with residential accommodation as at the 31st December, 1961.

	(former P.A. Inst.)									
	Springfield		Douglas Bank		Norley Hall		Rockwood		St. Stephen's	
AGE	M.	W.	M.	W.	M.	W.	M.	W.	M.	W.
Over 90	2	1	—	—	—	2	—	—	1	—
85—90	2	5	1	3	3	5	1	3	—	3
80—85	7	8	3	8	8	2	1	2	4	3
75—80	5	7	1	6	3	1	2	1	4	2
70—75	11	3	—	5	6	3	4	1	8	2
65—70	3	3	1	1	1	2	—	—	2	1
60—65	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	2
Infirm	—	2	—	—	—	2	—	1	1	6
Average ages	79		82		78		77		76	
Overall average age 78										

As in most other areas there is a waiting list, and it is noticed that the average age of the applicants and their degree of infirmity on application are steadily rising. There is a constant demand for ground floor accommodation, and staff in the Homes are being called upon to look after the infirm who need a lot of assistance, those who are temporarily ill and others requiring bed rest as a regular feature of care. "Short term care" was provided during the the year for 32 old persons, as against 19 in the previous year.

During the year 1961 the number of admissions to Part III accommodation was as follows :—

	M.	W.
(1) From own homes, lodging houses, etc. (including "short stay")	52	50
(2) From hospitals ....	21	22
The numbers discharged from Part III accommodation were as follows :—		
(1) No. dying in Homes ....	9	10
(2) No. transferred to Hospital ....	35	21
(3) No. discharged elsewhere ....	19	16
(4) No. leaving after "short stay" ....	13	19

## Hostel for Men

In addition to the above, 25 men were accommodated in the former Institution. These men require less attention and their need for care arises principally from their lack of supervised accommodation and elementary comforts.

The Committee's policy has always been to vacate the Welfare Home as soon as possible. Unfortunately, the Hostel building programme envisaged in 1948 has been considerably retarded during the past few years due to the need for national and local economy. The result of these restrictions has been that the accommodation at the Welfare Home has had to remain in use for much longer than had been intended.

## Admission Arrangements

Cases for admission are brought to the notice of the department by personal application, by relatives, by general practitioners, members of the Council, Public Health Inspectors, Health Visitors and so on. There is always a considerable number of persons awaiting admission, and it will be obvious that to admit applicants on a "first come—first served" basis would be impracticable. Some cases are of a more urgent nature and the date of application is therefore ignored in assessing priority. All cases are visited frequently and as a vacancy arises it is allocated to an aged person in most urgent need of care.

Where hospital patients are fit for discharge but unable to return home for any reason, they are interviewed by a welfare officer and their names are entered on the waiting list. In this sphere, close liaison is maintained with the Consultant Geriatrician and the Almoners.

## Charges for Accommodation

The Standard Charges for the year were :—

St. Stephen's House £5 17s. 3d., Douglas Bank House, Norley Hall, Rockwood and Springfield £5 19s. 7d. per week.

The following amounts were received on assessments made against residents according to the Scale in use at the present time :—

HOME :						£	s.	d.
St. Stephen's House	....	....	....	....	....	4,516	8	1
Douglas Bank House	....	....	....	....	....	3,889	8	8
Norley Hall	.....	....	....	....	....	4,442	16	0
Springfield	....	....	....	....	....	7,240	8	9
Rockwood	....	....	....	....	....	1,993	0	8
Hostel for Men (Accommodation Charges)	....	....	....	....	....	1,506	8	11
Hostel for Men (Meals Charges)	....	....	....	....	....	2,019	16	0



## TEMPORARY ACCOMMODATION

### Section 21b

There was some improvement, during the year, in the unsatisfactory situation which had developed in the Homeless Family Flats during the last few years. Two families were rehoused in Council houses, and the numbers accommodated at the 31st December, 1961, were 3 men, 6 women and 17 children—6 families.

During the year the accent has been on prevention, and the Welfare Officers have visited every known home where an eviction was likely to take place. These officers try to sort out the difficulties which have led the family to the brink of eviction, and, as a result, of 27 cases dealt with, only 2 families were admitted to the Flats. These results could not have been achieved without considerable effort and hard work on the part of Welfare staffs.

## DOMICILIARY VISITING

### AGED PERSONS LIVING ALONE IN WIGAN :

WARD		MEN	WOMEN	WARD		MEN	WOMEN
St. George	....	17	50	Swinley	....	78	225
Lindsay	....	42	111	All Saints	....	22	47
St. Catherine	....	48	118	Pemberton West		46	53
St. Patrick	....	41	132	Pemberton North		83	147
St. Thomas	....	37	189	Pemberton Central		89	271
St. Andrew	....	118	264	Pemberton South		23	102

A register of these people is kept in the Department and the information includes particulars of relatives and friends with the frequency of visitation, the family doctor, nature of any disability, an indication of services provided, together with a resume of the social conditions and financial circumstances. Welfare Officers made 1,219 visits to aged people living in their own homes and Welfare Services has become more widely known. Advice and guidance has been welcomed and in very few cases has the Welfare Officer been refused entry. A pre-paid post-card was left with each person so that, in the event of their requiring any assistance, advice or welfare services in any way, they had only to post the card and a Welfare Officer would visit to render any assistance that might be required. The elderly appear to be bewildered by the complexity of the social services, and simple matters become, to them, problems of considerable difficulty. It is considered that the solution of these problems by the Welfare Officers made a difference to the mental contentment of the old persons concerned.

Excellent relationships exist between officers of the National Assistance Board and those of the Department. There is an interchange of information regarding old people for whose benefit the services of either Authority are being provided.



## **CHIROPODY SERVICE**

This service, run on a voluntary basis by the Rotary "Inner Wheel" members is available at Crompton Street Centre to aged persons who are unable, through limited means, to visit a chiropodist in the normal way. We are greatly indebted to the voluntary workers for their support.

## **OTHER SERVICES**

### **Holidays at Rockwood, Colwyn Bay**

Holidays at the Council's Aged Persons' Home at Colwyn Bay were provided for aged persons who were in need of care and attention for a limited period, whose relatives or friends were themselves desirous of taking a holiday but who for the remainder of the year were prepared to care for them in their own homes.

### **Section 47. Removal of Persons in Need of Care and Attention**

It was not found necessary to take action under this Section during the year. Cases have arisen where Section 47 procedure might have been applied but has been avoided due to the satisfactory re-adjustment of the old persons' mode of life, habits, etc., made possible through the efforts of the officers of the Health and Welfare Department.

### **Section 48. Protection of Moveable Property**

No applications were received during the year requesting the Authority to provide protection of moveable property.

## **BURIAL OF THE DEAD**

### **Section 50.**

Under this Section of the Act, Local Authorities must accept responsibility for the burial or cremation of the body of any person who had died or been found dead in their area, where it appears that no other person or organisation will do so. The decision of the Ministry of Health a few years ago, that the cost of burial of patients dying in hospital could be a proper charge on health service funds, has somewhat relieved the financial burden.

During the year the service was provided in 2 cases.

## **WELFARE ARRANGEMENTS FOR HANDICAPPED PERSONS**

### **Section 29.**

#### **Welfare of the Blind**

The functions of the Authority are administered on an agency basis by the Wigan, Leigh and District Society for the Blind. Two Home Teachers are employed and seconded to the Society for duty. The Society provides sheltered employment and training for suitable blind persons, enabling them to engage in work in Workshops for the Blind.

The Home Teaching Service is operated by the Society and is available to all types of people who have become blind. Their needs vary considerably—financial assistance, education, training for employment, pastime occupations, handicrafts and cultural interests. In the course of their duties, the Home Teachers endeavour to establish a friendly contact between themselves and the blind person, so as to inspire confidence and understanding in their association. Regular visiting in their homes is carried out and help given regarding housing, home-help service, etc. The Home Teachers also act as escorts to blind persons attending hospital.

The care of the Deaf Blind persons without speech is one of the most difficult problems confronting the Home Teacher. All Deaf Blind Persons must have regular visits and means of communication (e.g., The Manual Alphabet) must be taught and used.

The Society act as agents for the “ British Wireless for the Blind ” Fund and install and maintain all sets free of charge.

The Health Committee have purchased 10 Talking Book Machines which have been loaned to blind persons, and are much appreciated.

Extra amenities, such as trips to the seaside, holiday grants, Christmas grants and all kinds of social activities are provided by the Society from the Voluntary Fund and it is only by the generosity of the many donors to the Fund that the Society is able to provide these services to the Blind people of the area.

### CLASSIFICATION OF REGISTERED BLIND PERSONS BY AGE GROUPS.

Age Group	31-12-61			NEW CASES REGISTERED Jan. 1st, 1961 to Dec. 31st, 1961.	
	M.	F.	TOTAL	Age at Registration.	
	M.	F.	TOTAL	M.	F.
0 ....	—	—	—	—	—
1 ....	—	—	—	—	—
2 ....	—	—	—	—	—
3 ....	—	—	—	—	—
4 ....	—	—	—	—	—
5-10 ....	2	1	3	—	—
11-15 ....	—	2	2	—	—
16-20 ....	1	—	1	—	—
21-30 ....	2	3	5	—	—
31-39 ....	2	6	8	—	—
40-49 ....	10	4	14	—	—
50-59 ....	3	4	7	—	—
60-64 ....	4	8	12	3	—
65-69 ....	10	7	17	—	2
70-79 ....	15	33	48	1	2
80 and over ....	23	15	38	1	1
TOTALS ....	72	83	155	5	5

## AGES AT WHICH BLINDNESS OCCURRED

Age Group	Total Register.			New Cases Registered during 1961		
	M.	F.	TOTAL	M.	F.	TOTAL
0 ....	3	1	4	—	—	—
1 ....	—	—	—	—	—	—
2 ....	2	—	2	—	—	—
3 ....	—	2	2	—	—	—
4 ....	1	1	2	—	—	—
5-10 ....	2	2	4	—	—	—
11-15 ....	3	2	5	—	—	—
16-20 ....	1	2	3	—	—	—
21-30 ....	6	7	13	—	—	—
31-39 ....	3	3	6	—	—	—
40-49 ....	7	2	9	—	—	—
50-59 ....	12	14	26	1	—	1
60-64 ....	6	7	13	2	—	2
65-69 ....	6	13	19	—	1	1
70-79 ....	16	20	36	1	3	4
80 and over ....	4	7	11	1	1	2
	<u>72</u>	<u>83</u>	<u>155</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>10</u>

During the year ended 31st December, 1961, 10 names were added to the Register of Blind Persons and 17 names were removed. Details are shown in the following table :—

No. of registered blind persons at 31-12-60	....	162
No. registered 1st January to 31st December, 1961	8	
Transfers into Area	2	
Re-certified	—	
	—	10
		<u>172</u>
Deaths	16	
Removals out of Area	1	
	—	17
		<u>155</u>
Number on Register, 31-12-61	....	155

The cause of blindness in the above cases was as follows :—

	Males	Females
Bilateral Senile Macular Degeneration	1	—
Cataract	3	3
Bilateral High Myopia	1	—
Bilateral External Ophthalmoplegia	—	1
Calcareous Degeneration of Cornea	—	1



### Follow - up of Registered Blind Persons

(1) No. of cases registered as blind during the year in respect of which Sec. F. Para. 1 of Forms B.D.8 recommends :—	Cause of Disability		
	Cataract	Glaucoma	Others
(a) No treatment ....	1	—	1
(b) Treatment (medical, surgical or optical) ....	4	—	1
(2) No. of cases at (1b) above, which on follow-up action, have received treatment ....	—	—	1
(3) No of cases at (2)			
(a) Vision improved ....	—	—	—
(b) Sight restored ....	—	—	—
(c) Treatment continuing at end of year ....	—	—	1

### Follow - up of Registered Partially Sighted Persons

(1) No. of cases registered as partially-sighted during the year 1961 in respect of which Sec. F. of Form B.D.8 recommends :—	Cause of Disability		
	Cataract	Glaucoma	Others
(a) No treatment ....	—	—	—
(b) Treatment (medical, surgical or optical) ....	4	1	1
(2) No. of cases at (1b) above, which on follow-up action, have received treatment ....	1	1	1
(3) No. of cases at (2) above, in which :—			
(a) Vision improved ....	—	—	—
(b) Sight restored ....	—	—	—
(c) Treatment continuing at end of year ....	1	1	1

### Ophthalmia Neonatorum

(1) Total number of cases notified during the year ....	Nil.
---	------

## Register of Partially Sighted Persons

Age Group	Registered at 31-12-61			Registered during 1961		
	M.	F.	TOTAL	M.	F.	TOTAL
1 ....	—	—	—	—	—	—
2 ....	—	—	—	—	—	—
3 ....	—	—	—	—	—	—
4 ....	—	—	—	—	—	—
5-10 ....	2	—	2	1	—	1
11-15 ....	1	1	2	—	—	—
16-20 ....	1	—	1	1	—	1
21-30 ....	—	2	2	—	—	—
31-39 ....	2	—	2	—	—	—
40-49 ....	—	1	1	—	—	—
50-59 ....	6	1	7	—	1	1
60-64 ....	2	3	5	—	1	1
65-69 ....	3	3	6	1	1	2
70-79 ....	8	3	11	1	1	2
80 and over	5	2	7	1	1	2
	30	16	46	5	5	10

## Welfare of Blind Children

One partially sighted child, who has been ascertained under the Education Act (Handicapped Pupils and School Health Service Regulations), as being in need of special educational treatment, is being maintained by the Authority as follows :—

	M.	F.
Preston School for the Partially Sighted ....	1	—

## Workshop Employment

The types of employment and extent of provision available for Borough cases are as follows :—

Brush making	....	....	....	5 males
Basket making	....	....	....	3 males
Machine knitters	....	....	....	2 females
Chair seating ....	....	....	....	1 female
Piano tuning ....	....	....	....	1 male
Salesman	....	....	....	1 male
Cleaner	....	....	....	1 female

On the 31st December, 1961, there were 14 blind persons from the County Borough of Wigan employed in the Workshops.

## Home Workers

There is no Home Workers Scheme in Wigan.

## Placement in Open Industry

The following arrangements have been made for carrying out the placement of blind persons in open industry.

- (1) Each case within the area of the Wigan County Borough be dealt with as it arises.
- (2) That the operation of the placement service be dealt with jointly by the Medical Officer of Health through the Welfare Services Section, the Voluntary Society for the Blind through the Superintendent, and the Local Disablement Re-settlement Officer.

## Welfare of the Deaf

The functions of the Authority are, in accordance with the Approved Scheme, administered on an agency basis by the Wigan and District Deaf and Dumb Society, acting as agents for the County Borough of Wigan.

## Deaf Register — Grouping

Children under 16 :						Male	Female
Attending Special School	....	....	....	....		8	2
Attending Other Schools	....	....	....	....		—	—
Not at School but Educable		....	....	....		—	—
Ineducable	....	....	....	....	....	—	—
Persons aged 16 and upwards :							
Employed	....	....	....	....	....	23	14
Undergoing Vocational Training		....	....	....		—	—
Unemployed but capable of and available for training for work	....	....	....	....		3	—
Incapable of or not available for work		....	....			9	13
						<hr/>	<hr/>
						43	29
						<hr/>	<hr/>

## Premises

Re-decoration of the Institute has made a great improvement. The premises are now bright and attractive, and in particular the canteen is much more pleasant and comfortable. In connection with the re-decoration, the opportunity was taken to improve the Chapel. Special lighting and rearranged seating, along with other alterations, brought about a far more effective view of the Altar and Reader's Stand. Regular services are held, the Missioner using the three-fold method of communication of the deaf, i.e., signs, finger-spelling and speech. On the occasion of the Harvest Festival, the Chapel was tastefully decorated with gifts which were afterwards given to a local hospital. Members also attended the special service for the deaf in Liverpool Cathedral.



## **Welfare**

Employment figures prominently in the welfare of the deaf and a considerable amount of time was spent placing deaf persons in employment. Frequent visits to firms are necessary before suitable placements can be made. The deaf are reliable workers, undertaking almost any trade. Local deaf people are weavers, mill hands, joiners, cabinet makers, painters, dental technicians, gardeners, engineers, packers, office clerks, property repairers, brickmakers, iron workers, tractor drivers, basket makers, domestics, machinists, welders and so on ; yet, unfortunately, it appears to be still held in some quarters that it is not possible for deaf people to use machinery. The chief difficulty lies in convincing prospective employers that deafness is no real detriment in many instances.

Visits to the deaf in their homes bring the Missioner close to their problems. Many are helped, although it is sometimes necessary to bring in other welfare workers so that through the interpretation provided the deaf person has the best available service. Such problems as arise are often born of misunderstanding. A deep-seated suspicion of all who offer help frequently exists and is only overcome by patient explanation and understanding.

Visits were also made to deaf patients in hospital, to talk to them and to assist the medical staff in their examination of the patient by interpreting for them. Should the case be a woman, qualified female interpreters are available. These visits are very much appreciated and in some cases are the patients' only contact with the outside world.

Regrettably, a proportion of the deaf have a poor command of language and find official forms and documents difficult to understand ; these and other papers are often brought to the Missioner for assistance in filling. Visits on their behalf were made to various offices, business houses, solicitors, opticians and dentists, and interpretation was provided.

## **Social**

In their leisure time the deaf participated in various interests such as rambling, photography, fishing and athletic sports. A bowling team was formed for the first time and achieved some success in competition with other deaf teams. After a season of friendly matches the Institute soccer team entered a local league and, although success was hard to come by, the players enjoyed the experience and earned a good reputation for sportsmanship. Deaf people enjoy a party as well as anyone else. New Year's Eve saw a happy crowd at the Institute party and the customary Watch Night Service was well attended. A social and dance was organised and visits were also made to places of interest.

## **Welfare of the Hard-of-Hearing**

There are 409 known hard-of-hearing persons in the Wigan Borough area.

During the year, help was provided through the local Society for the Deaf in obtaining and repair of Medresco Hearing Aids. Advice and assistance has also been given in individual cases. There is a local Hard of Hearing Fellowship which has a membership of 47.

## Handicapped Persons (General Classes)

### CLASSIFICATION OF GENERALLY HANDICAPPED PERSONS

HANDICAP	Adults		Children		TOTAL
	Male	Female	Male	Female	
Amputation ....	27	3	—	—	30
Arthritis and Rheumatism	11	9	—	—	20
Congenital Malformations ....	15	8	4	1	28
Diseases ....	49	11	—	—	60
Injuries ....	54	8	1	—	63
Organic Nervous Diseases	41	48	5	2	96
Other Nervous and Mental deformities ....	14	15	1	—	30
T.B. (Respiratory) ....	5	2	—	—	7
T.B. (Non-Respiratory) ....	2	—	—	—	2
Other disorders (not specified above) ....	9	6	—	—	15
	<u>227</u>	<u>110</u>	<u>11</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>351</u>

## Handicapped Persons (Accommodation)

9 Handicapped Persons are in accommodation provided by other authorities, as follows :—

	Males	Females
Maghull Homes for Epileptics ....	1	3
Langho Epileptic Colony, Blackburn ....	1	—
Cripples' Help Society, Tan-y-Bryn, Abergele ....	—	1
St. Elizabeths' Home for Epileptics, Much Hadam ....	—	2
	<u>2</u>	<u>6</u>

## Adaptations

The Scheme authorises the Council to incur expenditure on alterations to the homes of handicapped persons so as to assist them to overcome the effects of their disability. Most of the applications arise as a result of the proposed issue of wheelchairs or invalid tricycles by the Ministry of Health, when there is a need for assistance towards the cost of making a pavement crossing or providing an access path to the storage shed. 4 handicapped people were helped in this way during the year.



## Handicrafts

Handicraft classes are held at the Social Centres in Crompton Street and Tunstall Lane, and visits are made to homebound handicapped persons.

During the year 262 classes were held and 208 visits made to the homebound.

Handicapped persons are taking advantage of the facilities offered at the Centres and have been encouraged to attend the handicraft classes provided. The types of work undertaken by the men are rug making, basketry, lampshades, tapestry, leatherwork ; the main occupations of the women being crochet work, embroidery, hand and machine knitting, woodwork, lampshades, dressmaking, millinery and raffia work.

There appears to be a very happy atmosphere in the Classes and many new friendships have been made.

## Other Services

Holidays have been arranged for several blind and other severely disabled persons at the Aged Persons' Home at Colwyn Bay.

## VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS

Considerable help has been given by the Rotary Club, W.V.S., Old People's Welfare Committees, Welfare Services Comforts Fund Committee, Churches, Youth Organisations and Dramatic Societies in connection with the welfare of aged and handicapped persons. During the year, the following amenities were provided :—

- Outings for handicapped people.
- Transport of handicapped persons to and from employment.
- Food parcels and coal to needy and elderly persons.
- Books, magazines, etc. to Homes and Centres.
- Clothing for necessitous cases.
- Toys for children.
- Organising of garden parties and Christmas fairs.
- Visiting elderly persons.
- Complimentary tickets.

## CIVIL DEFENCE

### Rest Centres

The Medical Officer of Health is responsible for the planning of the Rest Centre Service, and during the year there has been maintained a list of 34 premises which have been earmarked for this purpose.

### Billeting

Further progress has been made during the year in compiling a register of accommodation in the Borough which could be made available for the billeting of the homeless in the event of war.

### Training

At the 31st December, 1961, 244 members of the Civil Defence Corps had been allotted to the Welfare Section.





*Section VI*

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**Sanitary Circumstances  
of the Area**

## WATER SUPPLY

On the 1st October, 1961 the responsibility for the supply of water to the Borough was vested in the newly created Makerfield Water Board. During the year the sources of supply have remained substantially unchanged and have been satisfactory as regards quantity and quality. I am indebted to Mr. Round, Engineer and Manager of the Board, for the following information.

During the year a total number of 91 samples were submitted for bacteriological examination, 25 of raw water and 66 of treated water. The following is a summary of the reports :—

		No. of results showing Coliform bacilli absent	Coliform bacilli present	Bact. Coli (Type 1) present
Raw Water	....	8	17	15
Treated Water	....	53	13	2

## Chemical Analysis

Representative results from each major source are shown in the table on page 104.

The waters have apparently shown no tendency towards plumbo-solvent action and no special precautions are taken apart from routine chemical analysis in regard to this.

Action taken in respect of any form of contamination is as follows :—

If contamination occurs above the treatment works, this is either combatted by temporarily increasing chlorination, or if the contamination is too serious for this to be practicable the supply in question is taken out of service temporarily.

In the case of contamination showing up in any “district” samples, immediate re-sampling is undertaken, and in the event of this confirming contamination, the main or service affected is disconnected and chlorinated after which a further series of samples are taken until the matter is cleared up.

The number of dwelling houses and the number of population supplied from public water mains direct to the houses are as follows :—

Dwelling houses	....	....	....	....	24,234
Population	....	....	....	....	78,910

No houses are supplied by means of standpipes.

## SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL

Practically the whole of the Borough is sewered and drained. The sewage is conducted from the town by two main outfall sewers (27 ins. and 36 ins. in diameter) to the Sewage Disposal Works at Hoscar—which are seven miles distant. Before leaving the Town the sewage is passed through detritus tanks and fine screens, where grit and gross solid matters are removed mechanically. At this point storm water flows in excess of 3 dry weather flow and up to a maximum of 6 dry weather flow are treated in the storm water tanks. During storms of high intensity, flows in excess of 6 dry weather flow pass direct into the River Douglas.



The main treatment works at Hoscarr was officially opened on the 15th October, 1958, following extensive reconstruction work. This work provides full treatment for five million gallons per day, dry weather flow, of sewage and trade effluent. One million gallons of this is trade effluent from a new food factory.

The sewage flow enters the Hoscarr Works via the new outfall Pumping Station, designed to increase the carrying capacity of the outfall sewers. Preliminary settlement is carried out in four radial flow tanks equipped with electrically operated desludging gear. The settled sewage gravitates to four batteries of biological filters designed to operate as either single, alternate double, or re-circulation filters. Two automatic pumping stations controlled by flow recorders provide accurate proportioning of the re-circulated effluents. Before passing forward to the River Douglas the filtered effluents receive adequate settlement for removal of filter solids. The combined sludges from the sedimentary processes are treated in single stage heated digestion tanks prior to de-watering on sludge drying beds. Three dual fuel engine generating sets, designed to operate on diesel oil, or on methane gas evolved during digestion of the sludge, have been installed. These provide the whole of the power requirements in respect of pumping, lighting and heating on the new works.

During the year 1961-62 (April, 1961 to March, 1962) the following amounts of sewage have been treated at the Hoscarr Moss and Pemberton Sewage Works :—

Pemberton Storm Water Works	....	....	272,475,000	gallons
Hoscarr Works	....	....	2,324,300,000	,,
				<hr/>
TOTAL SEWAGE TREATED	....	....	2,596,775,000	,,

Total solids removed, detritus tanks and screen chambers,

Pemberton	....	....	....	....	....	3,297	tons
Total solids removed, Hoscarr Works	....	....	....	....	50,623	,,	
Total dried sludge recovered, Hoscarr Works (Dry solids)	....	....	....	....	1,452	,,	
Weight of dried solids per million gallons of sewage	....	....	....	....	0.625	,,	
Rainfall for year	....	....	....	....	35.45	inches	(Hoscarr).

## PUBLIC BATHS

The Baths Superintendent, Mr. J. H. Cockrell, has kindly supplied the following statistics and report :—

The Wigan Corporation Baths comprises two Indoor Swimming Pools, one Ladies, one Gents, 16 Slipper Baths, one Cabinet Vapour Bath and one Establishment Laundry.

The Ladies Plunge Bath is 18 yards long by 9 yards wide and has a capacity of 40,000 gallons. The Gentlemen's Plunge Bath is 25 yards long by 10 yards wide and has a capacity of 60,000 gallons.

The Filtration Plant consists of two by 10 ft. Royles Type Vertical Pressure Filters complete with Chemical Dosage Plant and the filtered water is sterilized by means of chlorination.

The contents of the Ladies Plunge Baths are circulated through the Filtration Plant once every  $2\frac{1}{2}$  hours and the water in the Gentlemen's Plunge Bath once every four hours.

Tests for alkalinity and chlorine content are taken frequently each day and every attempt is made to ensure that the water conforms with the standards laid down by the Ministry of Health. Samples of water are taken, periodically, from the Swimming Baths for bacteriological examination and chemical tests.

During the year eight samples each from the male and female plunge baths were taken and all were satisfactory.

### Bathers :

Male Plunge Baths	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	96,284
Male Private Baths	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	13,166
Female Plunge Baths	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	56,781
Female Private Baths	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	6,584
Mixed Bathing : Adults and Juniors	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	7,943
Contracts, Free Passes, Season Tickets, etc.	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	2,360
								183,118

Number of Bathers during the past five years :—

Year ended 31st March :

1958	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	171,804
1959	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	216,607
1960	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	200,519
1961	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	216,135
1962	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	183,118

The figures show a decrease on the previous year due to unfavourable weather.

It is very disappointing to record that the Ministry of Housing and Local Government have not yet given permission to proceed with the erection of the New Baths, but it is hoped that in the very near future the Ministry will give favourable consideration to the project and fulfil a long felt need in the town.

It will be appreciated that until New Baths have been built the congestion at the existing Baths will be in great evidence for some time to come.

## PUBLIC CLEANSING

Mr. W. Smith, the Director of Public Cleansing, has supplied the following particulars :—

**REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL.**—The collection of dry house refuse and trade refuse is carried out entirely by mechanical transport. 82 per cent. of the refuse collected is disposed of by tipping.

**NIGHTSOIL AND PAIL REFUSE.**—The refuse (450 tons) is disposed of direct to farmers as manure. All pails are washed and disinfected after each collection.

**Trade Refuse.**—Fixed charges were introduced on November 1st, 1950, for the removal of this refuse. The shops and business premises in the town centre have a daily collection.

1,650 tons of trade refuse was delivered at the tipping site by private traders and contractors.

A scale of charges, in accordance with vehicle capacity, is operated.

**Gully Cleansing.**—During the year, 13,654 gullies were emptied.

**Public Convenience.**—The following conveniences and urinals are maintained and cleansed by the Department :—

1 public convenience for ladies and gents., with attendants.

7 public conveniences for ladies and gents., without attendants.

14 public urinals.

All urinals are cleansed and inspected twice per day, once on Sundays.

**General.**—The quantity of refuse dealt with by the Refuse Disposal Plant during the year 1961 was 5,113 tons, and the quantity tipped was 22,921 tons. In April, 1950, the Corporation introduced a Dust Bin Renewal Scheme, as a direct rate charge.

During the year, 930 bins were renewed and 415 sold to private properties not included in the scheme.

123,500,000 square yards of street have been swept during the year.

## CREMATION

The Medical Officer of Health and two Assistant Medical Officers on the Health Department staff act as medical referees to the Corporation Crematorium. During the year under review 688 certificates for cremation were issued.



## **PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTION**

Mr. John B. Marsh, Chief Public Health Inspector, reports :

The year under review commenced with the assurance of a full complement of public health inspectors and much has been achieved.

Slum clearance continued at a rapid pace due mainly to the Council's generous allocation of new houses for this purpose. Some 374 families were re-housed in fit dwellings.

Of the two smoke control areas submitted to the Minister one was duly confirmed in September. Many industrial and commercial fuel users have or are in the process of replacing outmoded boiler plant.

In July the Minister accepted the Council's Slaughterhouse Report and confirmed the date of its coming into operation as the 1st January, 1964.

It is satisfying to note the increased interest that the general public is taking in food hygiene as evidenced by the number of complaints made to this office.

Sampling of foodstuffs for chemical and bacteriological purposes has been carried out and in addition samples of water, filling materials, animal feeding stuffs and fertilizers have been taken. The position on the whole is satisfactory.

## Summary of Work Undertaken During the Year

Houses and premises inspected and visited <i>re</i> nuisances and complaints	1810
Re-visits to nuisances	4601
Other visits made	976
Visits to premises (testing of drainage)	528
Nuisances discovered	2193
Nuisances abated	1080
Notices issued (preliminary)	488
Notices issued (formal)	174
Letters issued <i>re</i> Nuisances	447
Visits to premises <i>re</i> Housing Act	716
Re-visits to premises <i>re</i> Housing Acts	1184
Visits <i>re</i> Certificates of Disrepair	56
„ Infectious diseases and food poisoning	57
Visits to slaughterhouses	2850
Visits <i>re</i> Offensive trades	5
Visits to markets	17
„ butchers' shops	64
„ food preparers	101
„ caterers	13
„ other food shops	533
„ dairies	135
„ milkshops	14
„ ice-cream manufacturers	35
„ ice-cream shops	59
„ bakehouses	16
„ houses let-in-lodgings	37
„ common lodging houses	14
„ factories—power	55
„ factories—non-power	5
„ offices	2
„ cinemas	8
„ places of entertainment	18
„ caravans	51
„ <i>re</i> rats and mice—dwellings	2498
„ „ other premises	5273
„ smoke abatement	1869
No. of shops observations	18
Visits to shops under Shops Act	72
Visits <i>re</i> Poisons Act	10
Visits to premises <i>re</i> applications for tenancy of Council houses	18
„ verminous premises	110
Reports to Borough Engineer <i>re</i> dangerous structures	37
Watercourse Inspections	1
Visits to Licensed Premises	40
„ <i>re</i> Standard Grants	229
„ Diseases of Animals (Waste Food) Order	19
„ canal boats	3

## Samples Obtained

Food and Drugs	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	247
Water (for chemical analysis)			....	....	....	....	....	20
Water, Milk and Ice-cream (for bacteriological examination)							....	342
Fertilisers and Feeding stuffs			....	....	....	....	....	16
Rag flock	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	5

## ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION

The charts in the report indicate the extent of atmospheric pollution in terms of sulphur dioxide and air borne grit. There are two measuring stations located at Ellesmere Road Nursery and Christopher Home. Each station comprises a daily smoke filter and volumetric sulphur dioxide apparatus, a deposit gauge and a lead peroxide apparatus. There is a further control point consisting of a lead peroxide apparatus at Gidlow Secondary Modern School. It is hoped that the continued efforts towards atmospheric pollution will soon be reflected in these readings.

A full complement of inspectors has enabled great progress to be made during the year towards the reduction of pollution rather than the measurement of it as in previous years.

## Domestic Pollution

The council made two Smoke Control Area Orders on the 30th April and the 14th December respectively. The areas are made up as indicated in the table below.

			Acres	Dwellings	Factories	Other premises
No. 1 Area	....	....	97	870	1	24
No. 2 Area	....	....	609	621	3	35

Extensive residential development is expected in the near future in No. 2 Area.

During the intensive visiting involved in the proposed areas direct contact with all householders was actively pursued and the implications involved were explained. Many of the doubts and fears of these householders were expelled with the result that the Minister confirmed the first order in September without the necessity for a public inquiry. The order will come into force on the 1st July, 1962. It is anticipated that no public inquiry will be necessary for the No. 2 Area. The end of the year saw work commencing on a third proposed smoke control area.



## **Industrial Pollution**

As the industrial fuel users become aware that the deadline for the plea that their plant is old and inefficient is July 1963, increased activity has taken place.

During the year eleven industrial and commercial firms have introduced modern boilers or have replaced old fuel firing arrangements. Many visits have been carried out which have resulted in new firing techniques being adopted with subsequent reduction of smoke emission. Furthermore many factory owners have indicated their intention to replace antiquated boiler plant within the very near future.

## **Chimney Heights**

Plans were received involving the construction of three new chimneys. In each case an increased height was agreed upon and the plans subsequently passed. In one other case an industrial undertaking agreed after consultation to increase the height of an existing chimney serving three boilers by an additional 34 feet.

## **Prior Approval of Boiler Plant**

Four applications were received from installers of new boiler equipment and after consultation all applications were recommended.

## **Smoke Offences**

During the year one notice was served under Sec. 1 and two notices under Sec. 16 of the Clean Air Act, 1956. No legal action was necessary as these notices had the desired effect.

## **Offensive Trades**

The offensive trade premises in the Borough comprise: 1 fell-monger, 1 fat boiler, 1 gut scraper and fat boiler and 1 gut scraper.

Visits have been paid to these premises and no cause for complaint has been found.

## **The Rag Flock and Other Filling Materials Regulations, 1951**

Five samples were taken during the year and the results of the examinations were satisfactory.

## Factories Acts

60 routine visits were made to factories in the area and the tables below show the conditions found and action taken.

PREMISES	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written notices	Occupiers prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities.	14	5	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority.	337	50	1	—
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises).	41	5	2	—
TOTAL ' ... ..	392	60	3	—

PARTICULARS	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness (S.1.) ...	1	1	—	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2.) ... ..	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temp. (S.3.) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4.)	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6.) ... ..	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7.)					
(a) Insufficient ... ..	—	—	—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective	2	2	—	1	—
(c) Not separate for sexes	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Out-work). ...	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL ... ..	3	3	—	1	—

## Outworkers

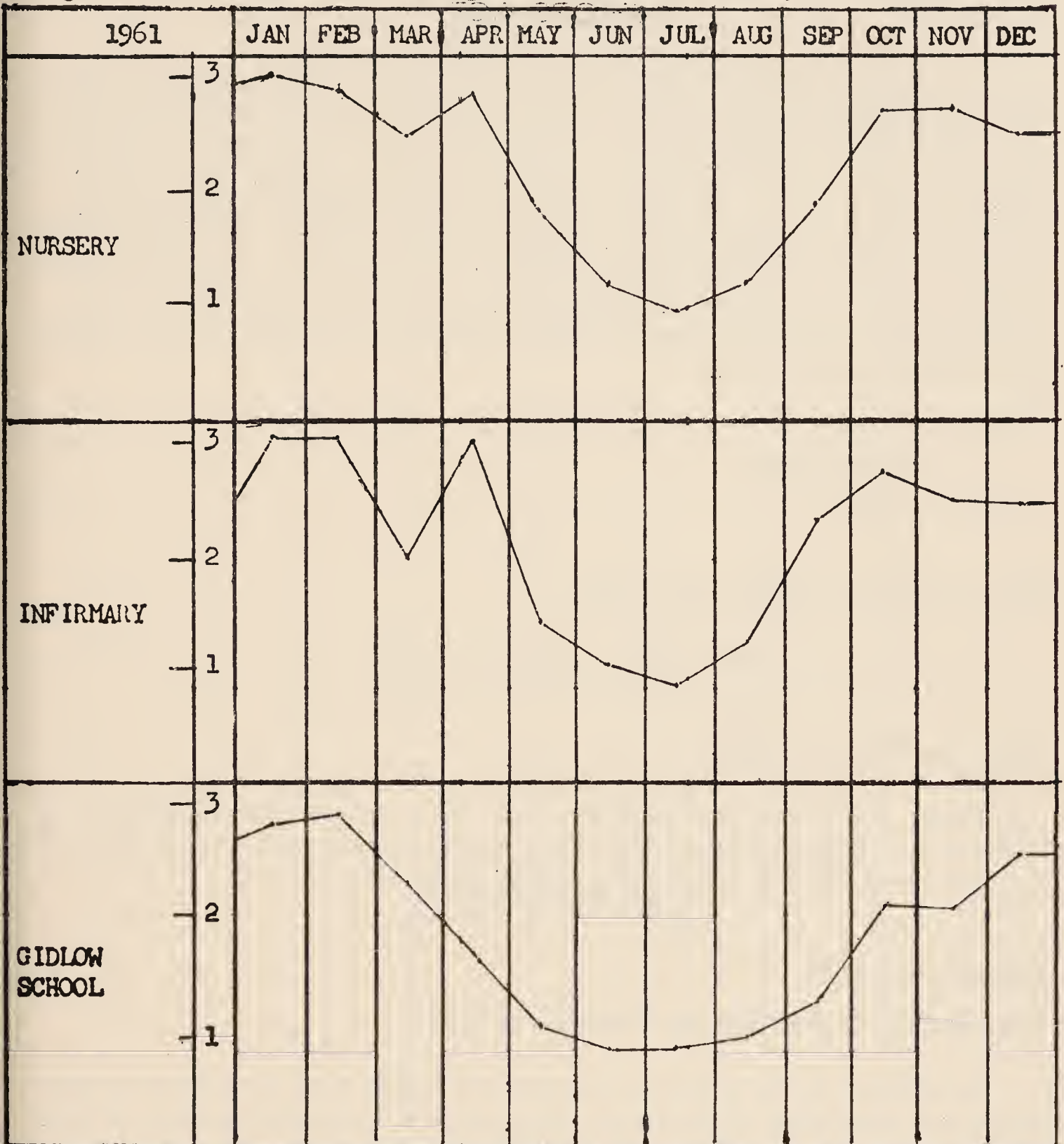
Two lists of outworkers were received and these reveal that five persons are engaged in the making of wearing apparel. Although the manufacture of wash leathers does not appear to be one of the occupations applying to outworkers for a number of years now returns indicate that this type of outwork is being carried on. Lists indicate that 14 persons are so engaged.



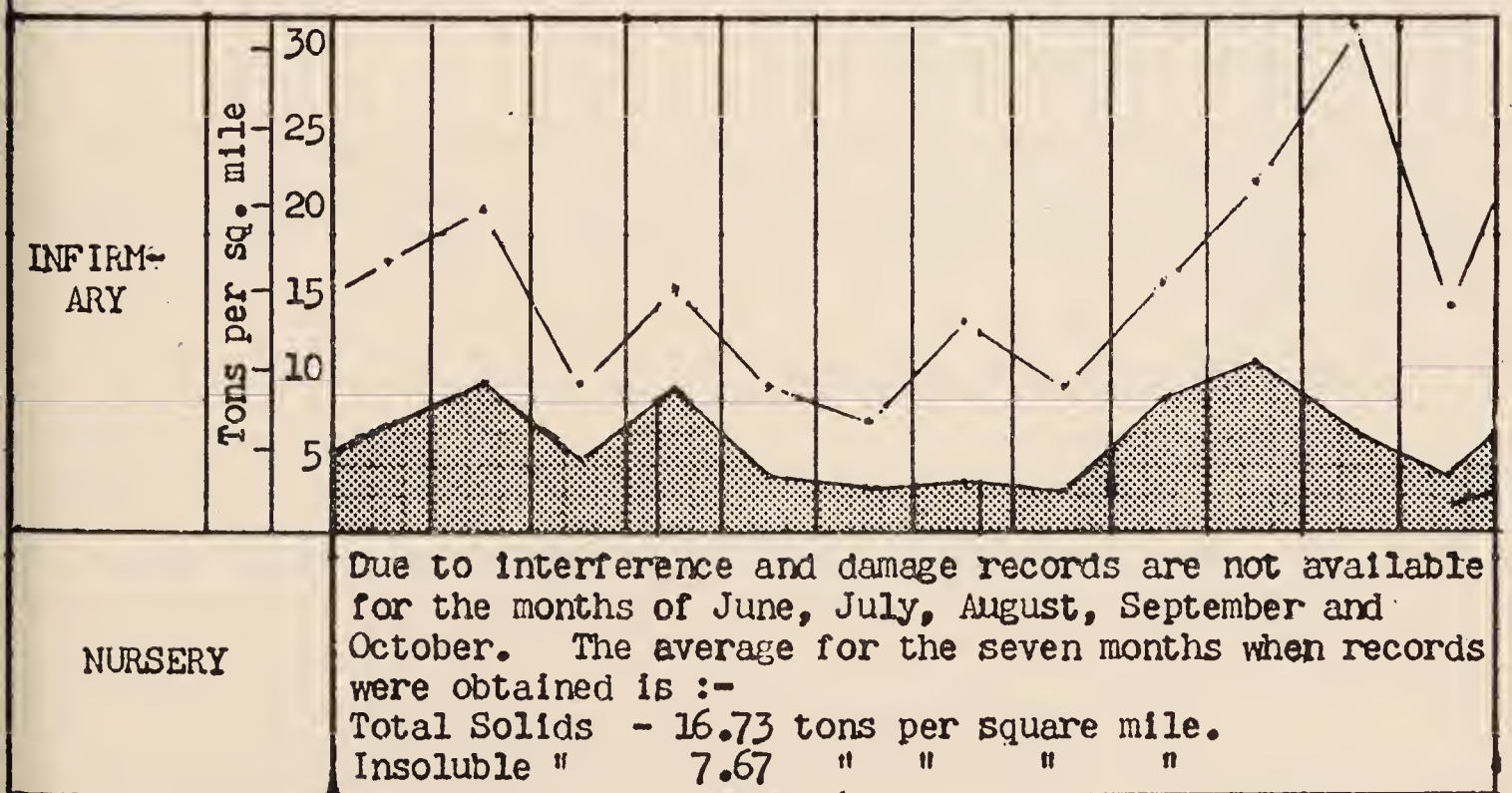
# ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION RECORDS

## ESTIMATION OF SULPHUR BY LEAD PEROXIDE METHOD

Weight of  $\text{SO}_3$  collected per 100 square centimetres per day (in milligrammes)



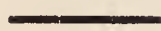
DEPOSIT GAUGE. Total solids - - - Insoluble solids ———







*Section VII*



**Housing**

## HOUSING ACCOMMODATION

### SLUM CLEARANCE

The year was a particularly good one as regards slum clearance. The momentum gained in the previous year was maintained and it now appears that the Council's original ten-year slum clearance programme will be completed two years ahead of schedule.

The Council's policy of dealing with houses as individual unfit units rather than by declaring clearance areas has paid handsomely. By circumventing the cumbersome procedure allied to clearance areas, i.e. preparation of plans, newspaper advertising, confirmation of order, possible public inquiry, etc., an almost monthly flow of demolition orders has resulted. In addition owners of properties have been informally interviewed and the position explained to them with the result that not only have appeals against demolition orders been negligible but in many cases owners have signed "undertakings to demolish" without even waiting for "notice of time and place."

The problem of house renewal is a continuing one and supplementary lists of unfit houses have been prepared. There are, however, a proportion of houses where bare maintenance has prevented the properties from being dealt with by Housing Act procedure at the time depriving the occupiers of those amenities such as bath, internal W.C., hot water, etc., which are now regarded as essential. Perhaps the time is near when either the Standard of Fitness is altered so as to embrace the lack of these amenities or legislation is introduced to provide for compulsory improvement of borderline houses.

In all approximately 870 demolition orders, closing orders and undertakings to demolish were made or accepted during the year.

### DEMOLITION, RE-HOUSING AND HOUSING ACCOMMODATION

#### Houses Demolished (Not in clearance areas)

	No. of houses	Displaced during year Persons	Families
As a result of formal and informal procedures under Section 16 or 17 of the Housing Act, 1957	261	1018	321
Local Authority owned houses certified unfit by Medical Officer of Health	41	153	37

<b>Houses Closed</b>	11	55	14
----------------------	----	----	----

No. of dwelling houses erected in 1961 :—

By Local Authority	406
By Private Enterprise	189

Unfit houses made fit and houses in which defects were remedied :—

After informal action by local authority	588
After formal notice (a) Public Health Acts	300
(b) Sec. 9 and 16 Housing Act, 1957	4



551

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## LEGAL PROCEEDINGS TAKEN DURING THE YEAR

In only one case was it necessary to institute legal proceedings against the owner of property for non-compliance with a Formal Notice. In this case the Magistrate made a Nuisance Order requiring the work to be done within 8 weeks. The work was satisfactorily carried out.

## RENT ACT, 1957

This Act came into force on the 5th July, 1957, and revised the procedure in connection with the issue of Certificates of Disrepair.

During the year 13 applications were received for Certificates of Disrepair. In 7 cases the landlords gave undertakings to carry out the necessary work within six months but two of these undertakings were refused by the local authority. 2 Certificates were issued.

15 applications for the revocation of certificates were received. None of the tenants objected to the cancellation of certificates. 13 certificates were cancelled.

7 applications were received for certificates as to the remedying of defects—5 from a landlord and 2 from tenants. All were granted.

There has again been a considerable reduction in both applicants for certificates of disrepair and applications for cancellation of certificates.

*Section VIII*

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**Inspection and  
Supervision of Food**



## EXAMINATION OF WATER

### Chemical Analysis

During the year 20 routine samples of water were sent to the Public Analyst for examination.

The results of these examinations, expressed in averages, are given below :—

	Bispham and Nicholson's Pit	Edgewood and Nicholson's Pit	Worthington & Thirlmere
	Parts per 100,000	Parts per 100,000	Parts per 100,000
Temporary Hardness .....	11.6	13.0	1.9
Permanent Hardness .....	12.7	11.3	1.3
Total Hardness .....	24.3	24.3	3.2
Alkalinity .....	11.6	13.0	1.9
Combined Chlorine .....	2.75	2.6	0.96
Ammoniacal Nitrogen .....	Negl.	Negl.	Negl.
Albuminoid Nitrogen .....	0.002	0.002	0.0007
Nitrogen as Nitrites .....	Negl.	Negl.	Negl.
Nitrogen as Nitrates.....	0.19	0.14	0.06
Oxygen absorbed in 4 hrs. at 27° C.....	0.05	0.07	0.09
PH Value .....	6.8	6.7	7.1

### Bacteriological Examination

During the year 99 routine samples of water were sent to the Public Health Laboratory, Manchester, for examination. 15 special samples were taken to test installations. All were satisfactory.

## MILK SUPPLY

The borough and surrounding urban and rural areas have comprised a Specified Area since 1959. This in effect makes it an offence for any person to retail milk other than Tuberculin Tested, Tuberculin Tested Pasteurised, Pasteurised and Sterilised Milk. Therefore the public receives milk which has been subjected to heat treatment or has been derived from a herd which is regularly examined and subjected to the tuberculin test.

There are three licensed pasteurising plants in the borough and these are visited regularly. Time/temperature checks are made on the plant and samples are taken at all stages of heat treatment and distribution for both chemical and bacteriological purposes.

No. of visits to dairies	....	....	....	....	....	....	135
,, milkshops	....	....	....	....	....	....	14
No. of dealers licensed for the sale of sterilised milk	....	....	....	....	....	....	321
,, licensed for the sale of pasteurised milk	....	....	....	....	....	....	136
,, licensed for the sale of tuberculin tested milk	....	....	....	....	....	....	62
No. of dealer (pasteuriser's) licences	....	....	....	....	....	....	3
,, persons registered as distributors of milk	....	....	....	....	....	....	329
,, premises registered as dairies	....	....	....	....	....	....	3

### Bacteriological Examination of Milk

141 samples of milk were submitted for bacteriological examination :—

PASTEURISED :	93	93 samples passed the Phosphatase Test and all the Methylene Blue Test. 1 sample was declared void for the Phosphatase Test.
TUBERCULIN TESTED : (pasteurised)	22	19 samples passed the Phosphatase and Methylene Blue Tests. 1 sample was declared void for the Methylene Blue Test.
TUBERCULIN TESTED : (Farm Bottled)	3	All were satisfactory.
STERILISED :	23	In all cases the Turbidity Test was negative.

### Chemical Examination of Milk

73 Samples of milk were taken for chemical analysis and the Public Analyst reported adversely on 12 of these. 11 were genuinely substandard and therefore no action was taken. In the remaining case the sample was deficient in fat to the extent of 6% but further follow-up samples proved the milk to be genuine.

### ICE CREAM

There are three registered manufacturers of ice cream in the borough. Control over the manufacture and sale was maintained. The rapid growth of a company involved in the production of soft ice-cream was noted. Each of the twenty vehicles belonging to the company is equipped with a beater freezer to which is added a pre-packed pasteurised mix. Whilst the vehicles are well appointed it was felt that a measure of control must be exercised in the handling of the mix, its storage and the subsequent cleansing of the equipment. Certain codes of practice have been suggested to the company concerned.

102 samples were taken and subjected to the methylene blue reduction test. This is a colour reduction test and the results are expressed as Grades 1-4. A comparison of the last two years' results shows the improvement taking place.

	1960	1961	
Grades 1	66	83	} satisfactory
„ 2	4	14	
„ 3	1	2	} unsatisfactory
„ 4	1	3	

2 samples of ice-cream were also taken under the Food and Drugs Act and submitted to the Public Analyst. These were reported as satisfactory.

### Retailers

The number of premises registered under Section 34 of the Wigan Corporation Act, 1933 for the sale of ice-cream on 31st December, 1961 was 337.



**FOOD PREMISES**

Number of food premises in the Borough :—

' Purveyor of Meat ' premises	....	....	....	....	....	91
Restaurants, cafes and snack bars	....	....	....	....	....	46
Fried Fish shops	....	....	....	....	....	69
Grocery shops	....	....	....	....	....	376
Greengrocery shops	....	....	....	....	....	57
Bakehouses	....	....	....	....	....	48

Number of food premises registered :—

Section 16, Food and Drugs Act, 1955 :—

Butchers	....	....	....	....	....	1
Wholesale grocers	....	....	....	....	....	—
Pie maker	....	....	....	....	....	—
Confectioner	....	....	....	....	....	—

Section 34, Wigan Corporation Act, 1933 :—

Ice-cream premises	....	....	....	....	....	337
Dairies	....	....	....	....	....	3

**Inspection of Food Premises**

The following is a summary of the defects discovered at food premises upon inspection :—

Insufficient washing facilities	....	....	....	....	....	19
Lack of cleanliness of ceilings	....	....	....	....	....	14
Lack of cleanliness of walls	....	....	....	....	....	14
Lack of cleanliness of floors	....	....	....	....	....	5
Lack of cleanliness of working surfaces	....	....	....	....	....	8
Defective floor and/or covering	....	....	....	....	....	16
Lack of cleanliness of equipment	....	....	....	....	....	2
No first aid kit	....	....	....	....	....	5
No clothing cupboard or locker	....	....	....	....	....	6
Insufficient cover for food	....	....	....	....	....	1
Insufficient lighting	....	....	....	....	....	11
Wash your hands notice not displayed	....	....	....	....	....	7
Inadequate heating	....	....	....	....	....	2
Inadequate refuse collection and/or storage	....	....	....	....	....	6
Unsatisfactory toilets	....	....	....	....	....	8
Dirty and unsatisfactory storage	....	....	....	....	....	5
Inadequate ventilation	....	....	....	....	....	2

## **Education**

Education of shopkeepers in connection with 'clean food' has been carried out by means of individual talks on the premises and by the distribution of suitable pamphlets.

## **Food Hygiene**

The task of bringing all food premises up to the prescribed structural requirements has almost been completed but by far the greatest problem is the education of the food handler. It is a long painstaking task undertaken by the public health inspectors whilst the food handler is at his task. A great deal of patience, tact and time is required, and only when this problem is overcome can the Food Hygiene Regulations be said to be effective. To support these visits striking posters from the Central Council for Health Education are liberally distributed, and there is no doubt that these posters do have a considerable impact.

## **MARKET HALL**

The Market Hall contains in one unit the main market, the fish market, the wholesale and retail fruit markets. Frequent visits are made and the conditions are satisfactory.

MEAT INSPECTION

The Slaughterhouses Report was accepted by the Minister in July and he appointed the 1st January, 1964, as the date from which all slaughterhouses in the borough must comply fully with the construction regulations. The date which appears to be well in the future was suggested by the council so that the owners of four slaughterhouses should not be put to unnecessary expense pending the determination of a proposed comprehensive development area.

Meanwhile the three bacon factories and six general slaughterhouses, whilst being kept busy, are maintaining good standards of hygiene. Slaughtering figures were up on the previous year, and by using the Ministry method of calculating meat requirements it was apparent that the town's facilities and meat inspection service was catering for the bulk of the surrounding area in addition to its own needs. In spite of this burden 100% meat inspection was maintained.

The most gratifying aspect of meat inspection in recent years is the decrease in bovine tuberculosis. The figures below indicate a most dramatic decrease in incidence.

						Cattle (excluding cows)	Cows
1959	....	....	....	....	....	3.2%	25.5%
1960	....	....	....	....	....	1.4%	6.0%
1961	....	....	....	....	....	0.1%	0.1%
No. of visits to slaughterhouses						....	2850
,, markets						....	17
,, butchers' shops						....	64
No. of certificates issued (condemned food)						....	977



### Carcases Examined During the Year 1961

	Cattle exc. Cows	Cows	Calves	Pigs	Sheep	TOTAL
Carcases examined ....	5626	8948	199	10601	32569	57943
Carcases totally condemned ....	2	9	4	12	5	32
Percentage totally condemned ....	0.03	0.10	2.01	0.11	0.02	0.06

### Carcases and Offal Inspected and Condemned in Whole or in Part

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Pigs	Sheep	Horses
Number killed ... ..	5626	8948	199	10601	32569	—
Number inspected ... ..	5626	8948	199	10601	32569	—
ALL DISEASES EXCEPT TUBERCULOSIS AND CYSTICERCI :						
Whole carcasses condemned ...	2	8	4	12	5	—
Carcase of which some part or organ was condemned ... ..	719	4737	1	1228	1316	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis and cysticerci ...	12.8	53.0	2.5	11.7	4.1	—
TUBERCULOSIS ONLY :						
Whole carcasses condemned ...	—	1	—	—	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ... ..	4	8	—	227	—	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis ...	0.1	0.1	—	2.1	—	—
CYSTICERCOSIS :						
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ... ..	52	81	—	—	—	—
Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration... ..	3	3	—	—	—	—
Generalised and totally condemned	—	—	—	—	—	—

The following meat and offal from the slaughterhouses was surrendered and destroyed, or sold for manufacturing purposes, during the year 1961.

	Whole carcase and all Offal Con- demned	Part of Carcase Con- demned	OFFAL CONDEMNED									
			Heads	Lungs	Livers	Hearts	Stomachs	Spleens	Skirts	Kidneys	Udders	Mesen- teries
Affected with Tuberculosis :												
Cattle (exc. Cows) ...	—	—	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cows ... ..	1	1	1	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Calves ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pigs ... ..	—	3	200	12	34	3	—	—	—	—	—	7
Sheep ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Affected with Cysticercosis :												
Cattle (exc. Cows) ...	—	—	34	—	—	20	2	—	—	—	—	—
Cows ... ..	—	—	54	6	2	31	8	1	—	—	—	—
Calves ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pigs ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Sheep ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Affected with other Diseases :												
Cattle (exc. Cows) ...	2	2	9	302	576	5	—	35	3	23	—	—
Cows ... ..	8	1	31	1555	4525	29	5	273	28	234	148	1
Calves ... ..	4	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pigs ... ..	12	3	3	1091	378	276	—	39	—	49	3	1
Sheep ... ..	5	—	—	26	1307	14	—	—	—	—	—	—
	32	10	334	3001	6822	379	15	348	31	306	151	9

### Summary of other Food Condemned, 1961

Meat	195 lbs.
Canned Meat	816
Fish	462 lbs.
Canned Fish	141
Fruit	1571 lbs.
Canned Fruit	1653
Vegetables	13424 lbs.
Canned Vegetables	509
Canned Milk	198
Canned Jam	15
Canned Soup	76
Packages of Other Food	956
Other canned or bottled foods	249
Coconut	33 lbs.
Dried Fruit	12 lbs.
Bacon	2 lbs.
Ice Cream Mix	1 gall.

All food condemned, other than meat, is destroyed at the Frog Lane Depot of the Corporation Cleansing Department.

# FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1955 — SAMPLING

During the year 247 samples of milk and various other foods obtained under the above Act were submitted to the Public Analyst for examination.

## SAMPLES TAKEN DURING 1961 :—

ARTICLES	Total Number analysed	Samples regarded as adulterated below standard or otherwise not complying with the prescribed requirements		ARTICLES	Total Number analysed	Samples regarded as adulterated below standard or otherwise not complying with the prescribed requirements	
		Number	%			Number	%
Arrowroot .....	4	—	—	Lentils.....	1	1	100
Baking Powder ...	2	—	—	Macaroni.....	1	—	—
Barley .....	4	—	—	Margarine .....	5	—	—
Beer.....	1	—	—	Meat Paste .....	5	—	—
Blanc Mange pdr	2	—	—	Meat Pies .....	7	2	29
Brandy .....	1	—	—	Milk .....	73	12	17
Brawn .....	1	—	—	Mincemeat .....	1	—	—
Bread .....	3	—	—	Olive oil .....	2	—	—
Bronchial cough mixtures .....	2	1	50	Pepper .....	3	—	—
Butter .....	5	—	—	Pickles .....	5	—	—
Cake .....	7	—	—	Plum Pudding ...	1	—	—
Caviar (mock) ...	1	—	—	Salad Cream .....	1	—	—
Cheese .....	2	—	—	Sauces .....	1	—	—
Choc. cake cover.	1	—	—	Sausage .....	3	2	67
Cocoa .....	2	—	—	Semolina .....	1	—	—
Coffee .....	5	—	—	Sherry Ess.....	1	—	—
Cornflour .....	4	—	—	Soft drink .....	6	1	17
Cream .....	2	—	—	Soft drink pwd....	2	—	—
Currants .....	2	—	—	Soup powder .....	2	—	—
Curry Powder ...	2	—	—	Spice .....	1	—	—
Custard powder	2	—	—	Sugar .....	3	—	—
Dripping .....	4	—	—	Sweets .....	4	—	—
Fish cakes .....	2	—	—	Table jellies .....	2	—	—
Fish paste .....	6	—	—	Tapioca .....	2	—	—
Flour .....	4	—	—	Tea .....	2	—	—
Gin .....	1	—	—	Tinned Fish .....	3	—	—
Glucose .....	1	—	—	Tinned Fruit .....	1	—	—
Gravy Browning	4	—	—	Tinned meat .....	1	—	—
Honey .....	2	—	—	Tinned Milk .....	2	—	—
Ice Cream .....	2	—	—	Tinned peas .....	1	—	—
Ice Lolly .....	4	2	50	Tomato ketchup	1	—	—
Icing Sugar .....	1	—	—	Treacle .....	2	—	—
Jams .....	7	—	—	Vinegar .....	2	—	—
Lard .....	4	—	—	Wheat germ .....	1	—	—
				Whisky .....	1	—	—
Action taken in regard to unsatisfactory samples is given on Page 113.					247	21	8.5



# SAMPLES NOT UP TO SATISFACTORY STANDARDS

ARTICLE	No. of Sample		REPORT	REMARKS
	Informal	Formal		
Raw Milk	24		Sub-standard but genuine milk deficient in solids-not fat to the extent of 1.1 per cent.	No Action.
Raw Milk	25		Sub-standard but genuine milk deficient in solids-not-fat to the extent of 4.7 per cent.	No action.
Raw Milk	27		Sub-standard but genuine milk deficient in solids-not fat to the extent of 2.3 per cent.	No action.
Raw Milk	28		Sub-standard but genuine milk deficient in solids-not-fat to the extent of 1.1 per cent.	No action.
Raw Milk	32		Sub-standard but genuine milk deficient in solids-not-fat to the extent of 2.3 per cent.	No action.
Raw Milk	33		Sub-standard but genuine milk deficient in solids-not-fat to the extent of 7.1 per cent.	No action.
Raw Milk	37		Sub-standard but genuine milk deficient in solids-not-fat to the extent fo 3.5 per cent.	No action.
Raw Milk	38		Sub-standard but genuine milk deficient in solids-not-fat to the extent of 1.1 per cent.	No action.
Raw Milk	39		Sub-standard but genuine milk deficient in solids-not-fat to the extent of 9.4 per cent.	No action.
Beef Sausage	43		Beef sausage containing sulphur dioxide preservative, the presence of which was not declared.	Preservative not in excess of permissible limit but declaration was not displayed. Warning letter sent to both manufacturer and retailer.
Beef Sausage		71	Beef sausage containing sulphur dioxide preservative, the presence of which was not declared.	„
Steak and Kidney Pie	70		Meat pie containing a small piece of hide and attached hair, probably derived from a cow.	Legal proceedings taken under Sec. 2 Food & Drugs Act, 1955 for selling food not of the substance demanded. Result—£5 fine advocates fee—£5 5s.

**Samples not up to Satisfactory Standards—continued.**

ARTICLE	No. of Sample		REPORT	REMARKS
	Informal	Formal		
Meat and Potato Pie	103		Meat & Potato pie containing a piece of hide and attached hair probably derived from a cow or ox.	Proceedings were taken under Sec. 2 & 113 of the Food & Drugs Act, 1955 against the pie manufacturer who in turn summonsed the butcher supplying minced meat. The pie manufacturer was fined £3 and £5 costs and the butcher was fined £5 and £10 costs.
Lentils	117		Lentils containing 0.2 per cent of foreign seeds and extraneous matter.	Warning letter sent to supplier.
Cough Mixture	120		Cough mixture not conforming to the declarations on the label.	Warning letter sent to manufacturers.
Iced Lolly	137		Iced Lolly not strictly conforming to the requirements of the Labelling of Food Order.	Warning letter sent to manufacturers.
Iced Lolly	138		Iced Lolly not strictly conforming to requirements of the Labelling of Food Order.	Warning letter sent to manufacturers.
Milk	184		Sub-standard but genuine milk, deficient in solids-not-fat to the extent of 1.1 per cent.	No action.
Milk	186		Sub-standard but genuine milk, deficient in solids-not-fat to the extent of 5.9 per cent.	No action.
Cream Soda	205		The rubber washer which was used to make a water-tight seal with the stopper of the bottle contained 700 parts per million of phenols, which imparted a strong "chemical" odour which was noticeable when the stopper was removed. The cream soda did not contain any detectable phenol.	Manufacturer interviewed and warned.
Milk	224		Milk deficient in fat to the extent of 6.6 per cent.	Follow-up formal samples were taken and analysis proved satisfactory.

## ANNUAL REPORT OF THE PUBLIC ANALYST

I am indebted to the Borough Analyst, Mr. J. Graham Sherratt, B.Sc., F.R.I.C. for the following remarks on the work carried out on behalf of the Corporation during the 12 months ended 31st December, 1961.

### Food and Drugs Act, 1955

Number of samples of Foods and Drugs analysed	....	....	247
Number of samples regarded as sub-standard or otherwise unsatisfactory	....	....	21
Percentage unsatisfactory	....	....	8.5

The above total of 247 samples included 73 samples of liquid milk and 174 samples of miscellaneous foods and drugs. The samples classified as sub-standard or otherwise unsatisfactory comprised 12 samples of liquid milk, 2 samples of beef sausage, 2 samples of iced lollies, 2 samples of meat pies, 1 sample of lentils, 1 sample of cough mixture and 1 sample of cream soda. The irregularities found in these samples were as follows :—

#### Milk

Eleven of the samples of milk were genuine but sub-standard, i.e. they contained less than the presumptive minimum of 8.5. per cent of solids-not-fat, prescribed by the Sale of Milk Regulations, but application of the freezing point test indicated that in each case the deficiencies were due to natural causes and not to the presence of extraneous water. One sample of milk contained only 2.8 per cent of fat instead of 3.0 per cent, required by the Regulations, so that this sample was deficient in fat to the extent of 6.6 per cent.

#### Sausage

Two samples of beef sausage contained undeclared sulphur dioxide preservative. Sulphur dioxide is permitted in sausage, to the extent of not more than 450 parts per million, only if its presence is declared at the time of sale. The content of sulphur dioxide in the two samples was 240 and 180 parts per million.

#### Iced Lollies

The label of two samples of iced lollies did not conform strictly to the requirements of the Labelling of Food Order. The irregularity was of a minor character, and it appeared to have been unrealised by the firm who manufactured the lollies.

#### Meat Pies

One sample of steak and kidney pie and one sample of meat and potato pie contained extraneous matter. In each case the foreign material consisted of a small piece of animal hide with hair attached.



## Lentils

A sample of lentils contained 0.2 per cent of foreign seeds and other extraneous matter. It appeared that the lentils had not been adequately cleaned before being packaged.

## Cough Mixture

The label on this sample declared that chloroform was present to the extent of 0.75 per cent, but no chloroform at all could be detected. It is not uncommon to find that small quantities of chloroform added to mixtures such as this disappear entirely by the time the article reaches the retail market. Chloroform is volatile, and it is possible that it is lost during the process of manufacture.

## Cream Soda

This sample was sent for analysis as a result of a complaint by a member of the public. The beverage was sold in a bottle sealed by a screw cap and washer, and the washer was found to be contaminated with phenols to the extent of 700 parts per million. It is probable that at some time the bottle had contained creosote, and phenolic bodies had been absorbed from the liquid on the washer. The contamination caused a "chemical" odour when the bottle was opened but no significant contamination had actually been transferred from the washer to the cream soda.

All the remaining samples taken under the food and Drugs Act were regarded as “genuine.” Samples for which there are official standards of composition conformed in all respects, and other samples were regarded as of satisfactory commercial quality.

All samples that might undergo decomposition were tested for preservative but, apart from the sausages referred to above, no infringement of the Preservatives Regulations was detected. In addition to the routine checks of composition a large proportion of the other samples was examined for the presence of metals, including lead, copper and arsenic, but no significant contamination was found in any of them.

## Composition of Milk Samples

The following is the average composition of samples of milk (excluding sub-standard samples) received during the year.

[illegible]

## FERTILISERS AND FEEDING STUFFS ACT

Six samples of fertilisers and ten samples of feeding stuffs were analysed during the year. These samples were all submitted for routine check of composition and were not taken specially to investigate complaints. Irregularity of composition or labelling was found to occur in 4 samples of fertilisers and 3 samples of feeding stuffs.

### Fertilisers

A sample described as " Top Dressing Manure " contained 1.0 per cent more potash than the amount declared. The excess of potash was 0.5 per cent outside the permitted limits of variation, but it was not to the prejudice of the purchaser. A sample of National Growmore Fertiliser contained 1.7 per cent more soluble phosphoric acid and 3.0 per cent more potash than the amount declared. In this case also the excesses of phosphoric acid and potash were not to the prejudice of the purchaser, but they exceeded the permitted limits of variation to the extent of 0.95 per cent of soluble phosphoric acid and 2.25 per cent of potash. The irregularity in the other two samples of fertiliser concerned the statutory declaration, which in neither case was in the form prescribed by the Fertilisers and Feeding Stuffs Regulations.

### Feeding Stuffs

One sample of pig meat contained 1.0 per cent less oil than the amount declared. This variation from the declaration is 0.25 per cent outside the permitted limits. In one sample of chick mash and one sample of turkey pellets the statutory declarations were not in the prescribed form, protein being given only as a minimum of " not less than  $18\frac{1}{2}\%$  " instead of in the form of a precise declaration of the percentage in the meals.

The samples not referred to specifically above conformed to official requirements.

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## WATERS

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Twenty samples of drinking water were analysed during 1961. The organic condition of these samples was uniformly satisfactory, and none of the samples contained any poisonous metals.

J. GRAHAM SHERRATT,

*Public Analyst.*

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